

# Direct Photon : Beam energy and centrality dependence

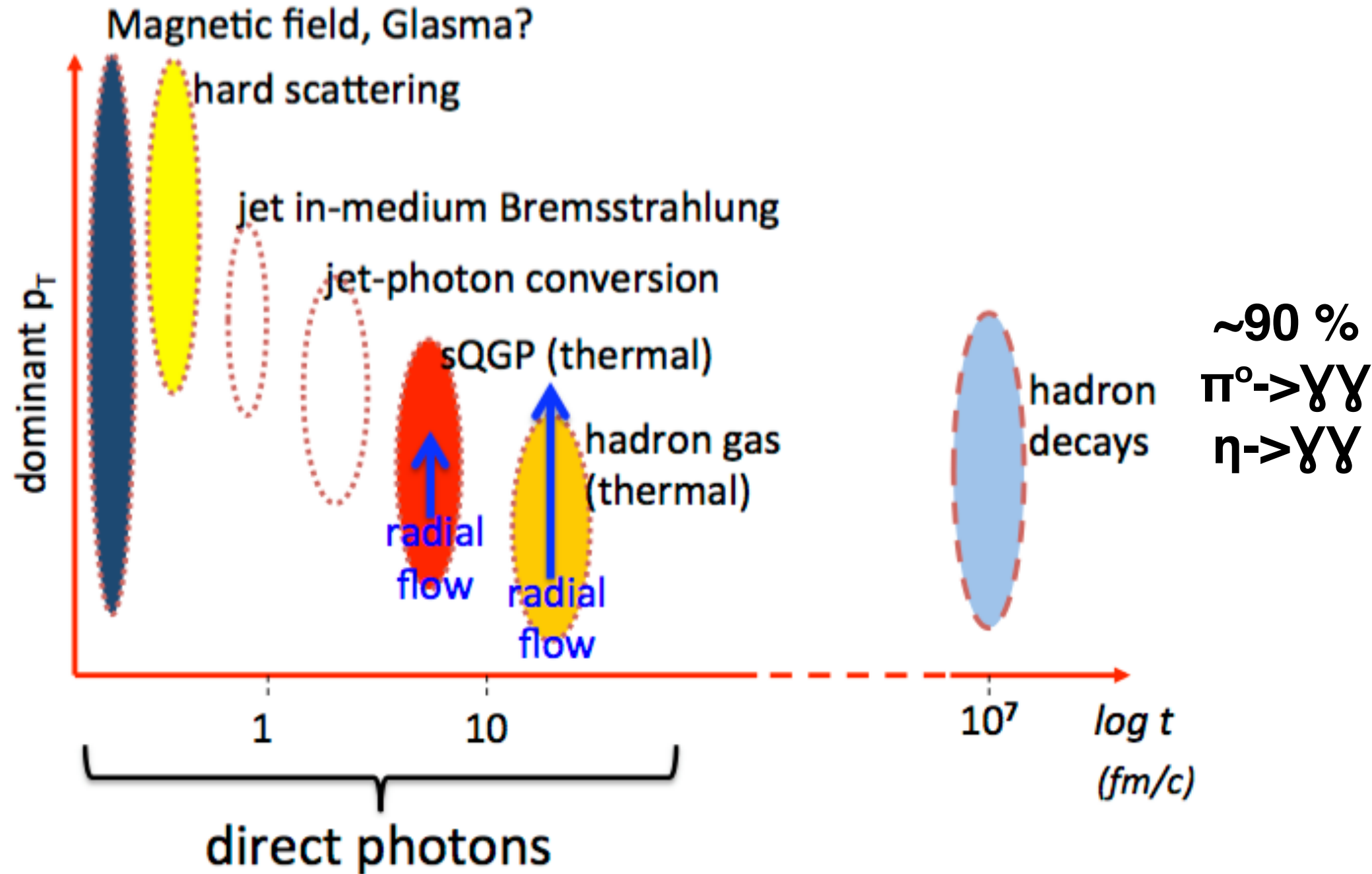
**Veronica Canoa Roman**  
*Stony Brook University*



The 2018 RHIC/AGS Annual Users' Meeting



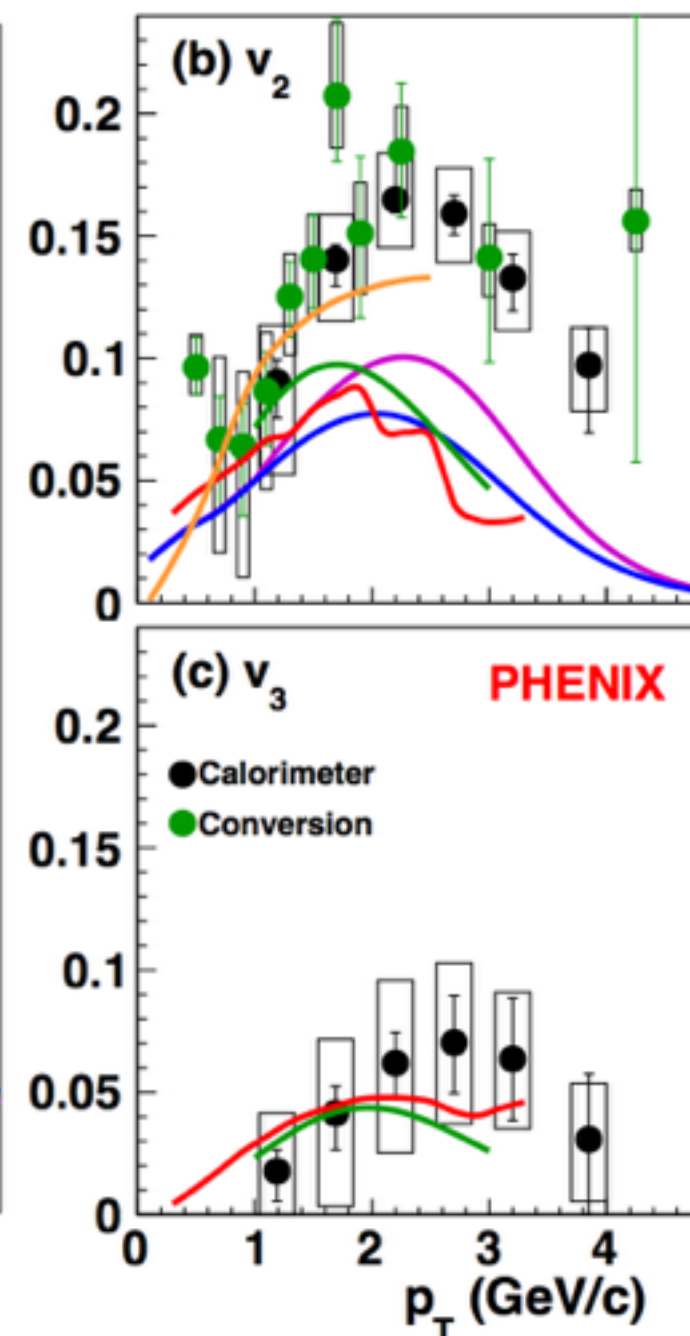
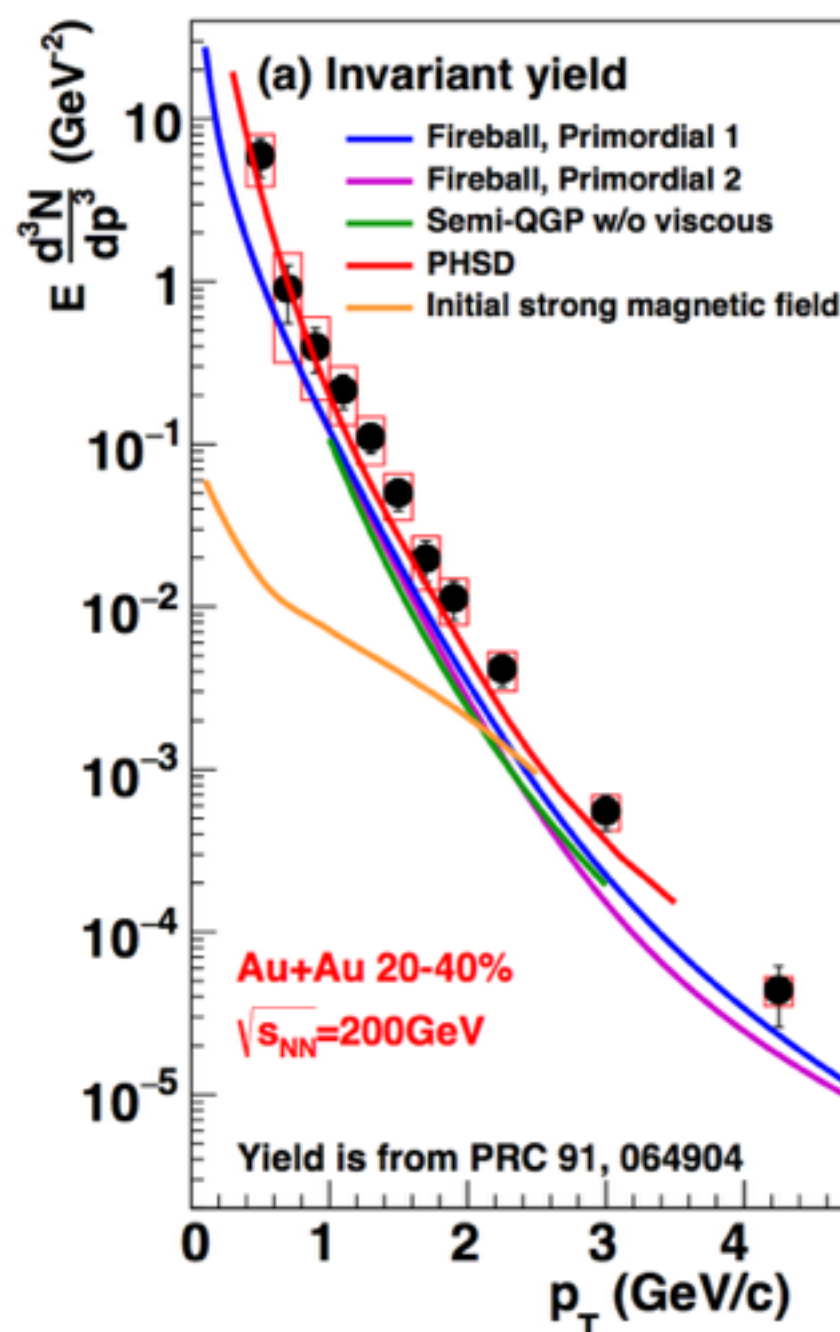
# Direct Photon sources in heavy ion collisions



Extracting thermal photon requires the systematic uncertainty of decay photons and prompt photons subtractions less than 10 %

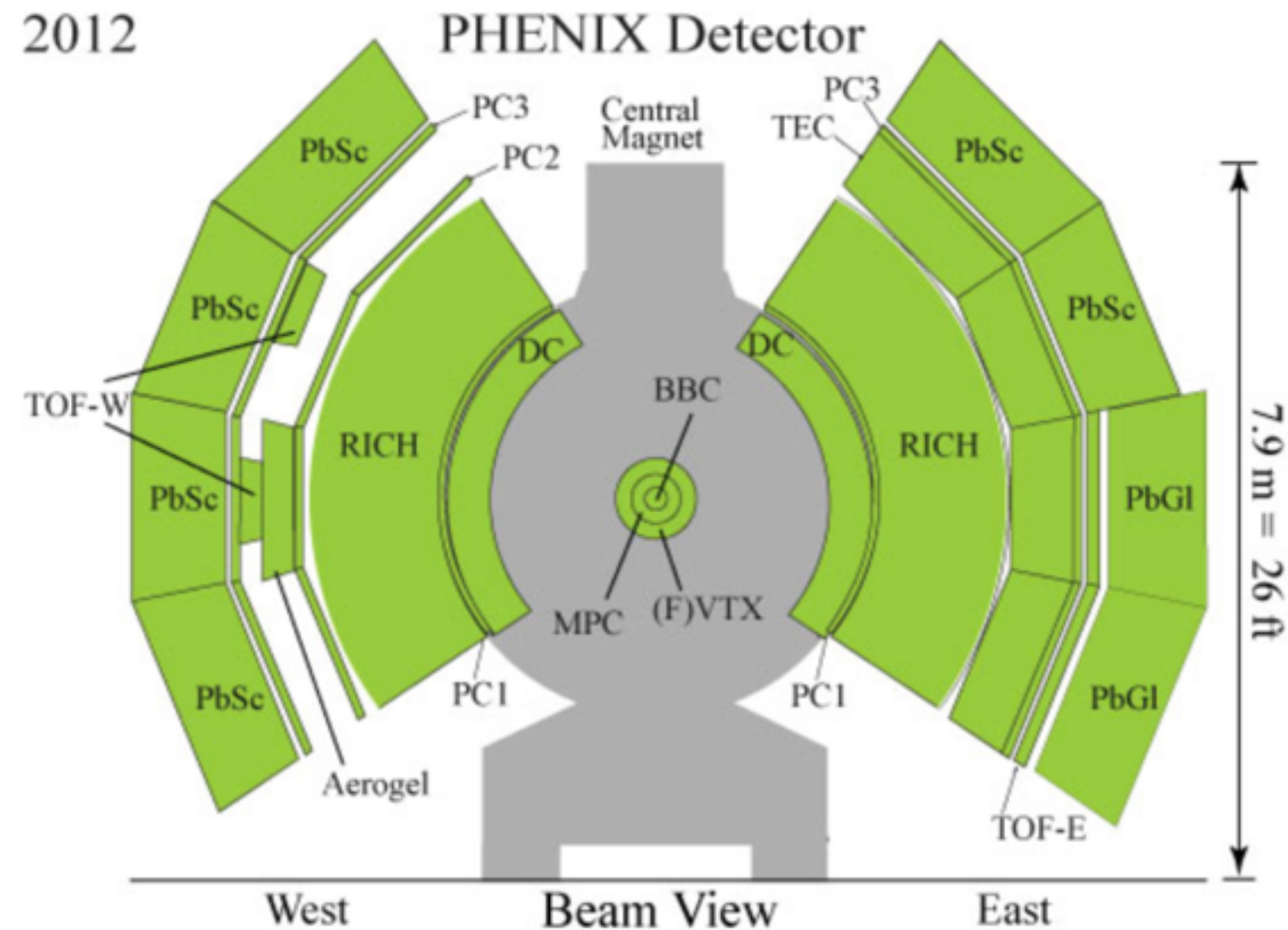
# Direct photon challenge

- Large yield and large anisotropy is observed at PHENIX—> challenge to theoretical models:
  - Large yield -> Early emission
  - Large  $v_2$  -> Late emission
- In order to understand this, PHENIX has measure data in:
  - Large systems: Au+Au 200, 62, 39 GeV and Cu+Cu at 200 GeV
  - Small systems: p+p, p+Au, d+Au (MB) at 200 GeV



# Photon measurement techniques in PHENIX

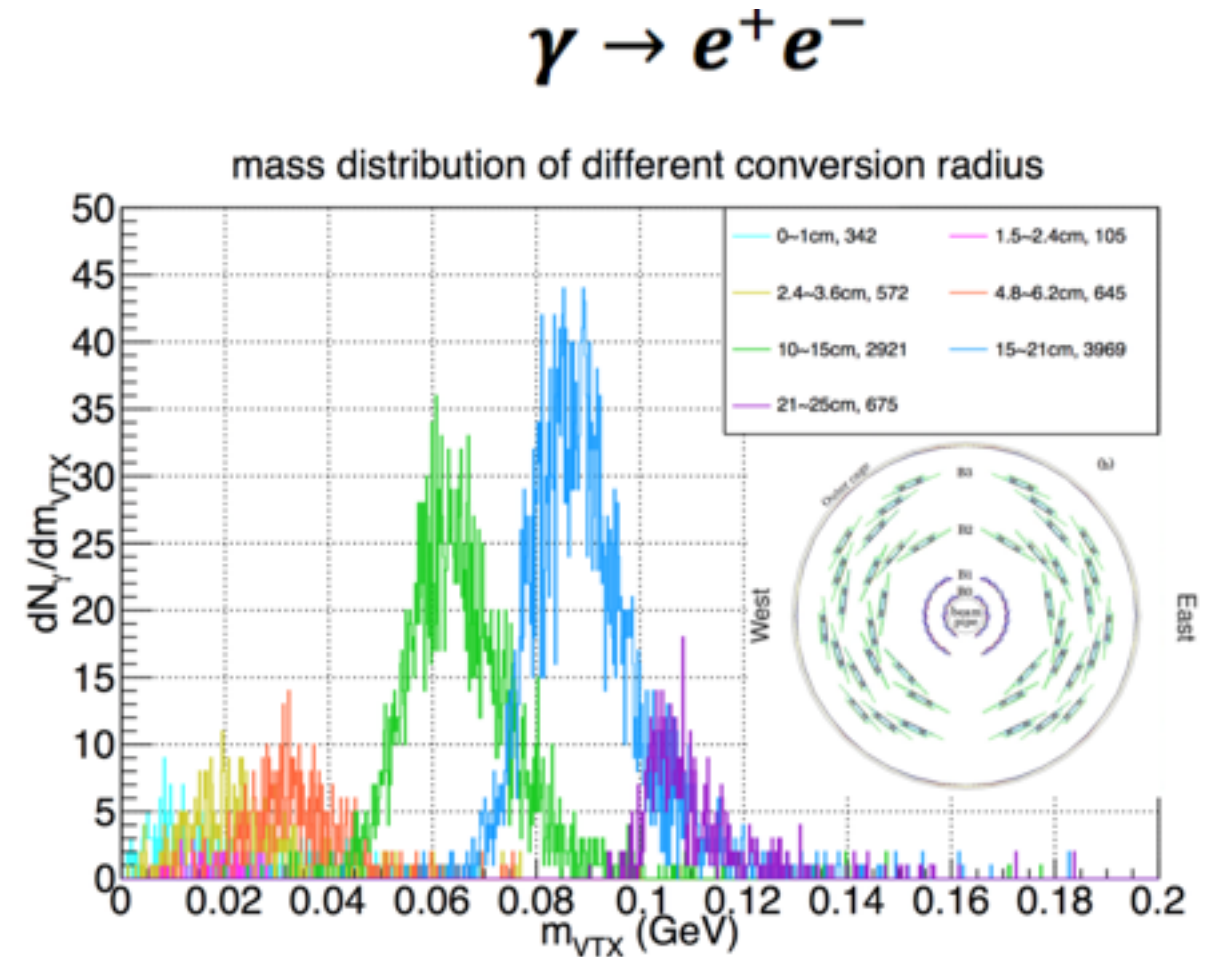
- **Measuring energy deposited by photons in Calorimeter**
  - Good resolution at high  $p_t$
  - Low  $p_t$  contaminated by hadrons
- **Internal photon conversions**
  - Measure virtual photons
  - Reduction in background from hadron decay by a factor of 5
  - Low  $p_t$  reach is limited ( $\sim 1$  GeV) as well as high  $p_t$
- **External conversions**
  - Measure real photons
  - Extends  $p_t < 1$  GeV and good resolution
  - High  $p_t$  reach is limited





# External conversion method

- Photon convert in :
  - HBD backplane ( $\sim 60$  cm)(2008- 2010 data).
  - VTX layers (2011- 2016 data)
- Sample purity  $>98$  %
- Double ratio tagging method: cancelation of systematics



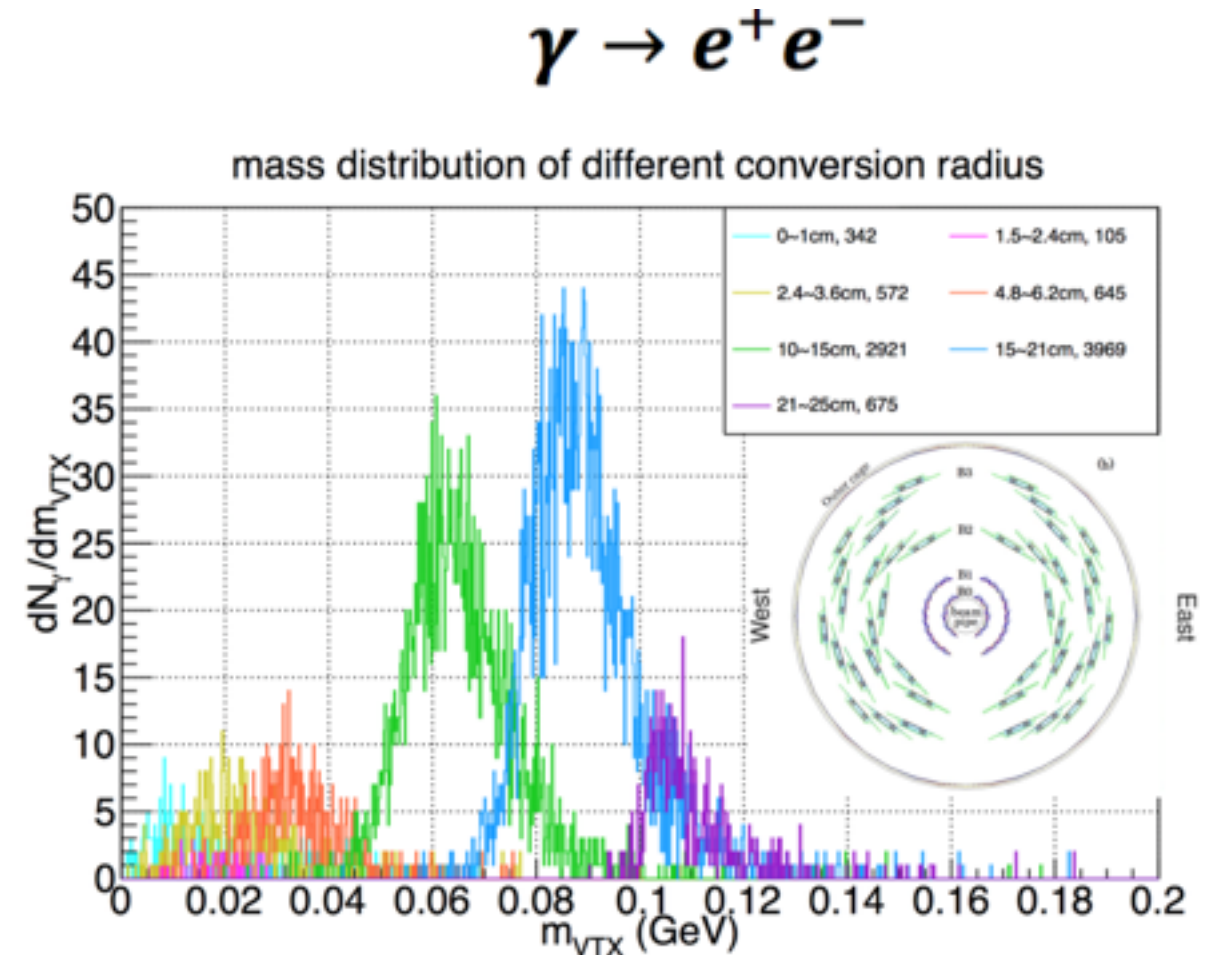
$$R_\gamma = \frac{\gamma^{incl}}{\gamma^{hadron}} = \frac{\langle \epsilon_\gamma f \rangle \left( \frac{N_\gamma^{incl}}{N_\gamma^{\pi^0 tag}} \right)_{Data}}{\left( \frac{\gamma^{hadron}}{\gamma^{\pi^0}} \right)_{Sim}}$$

- Measured raw yields
- Conditional tagging efficiency
- Simulated based on hadron data

$$\gamma^{direct} = (R_\gamma - 1) \gamma^{hadron}$$

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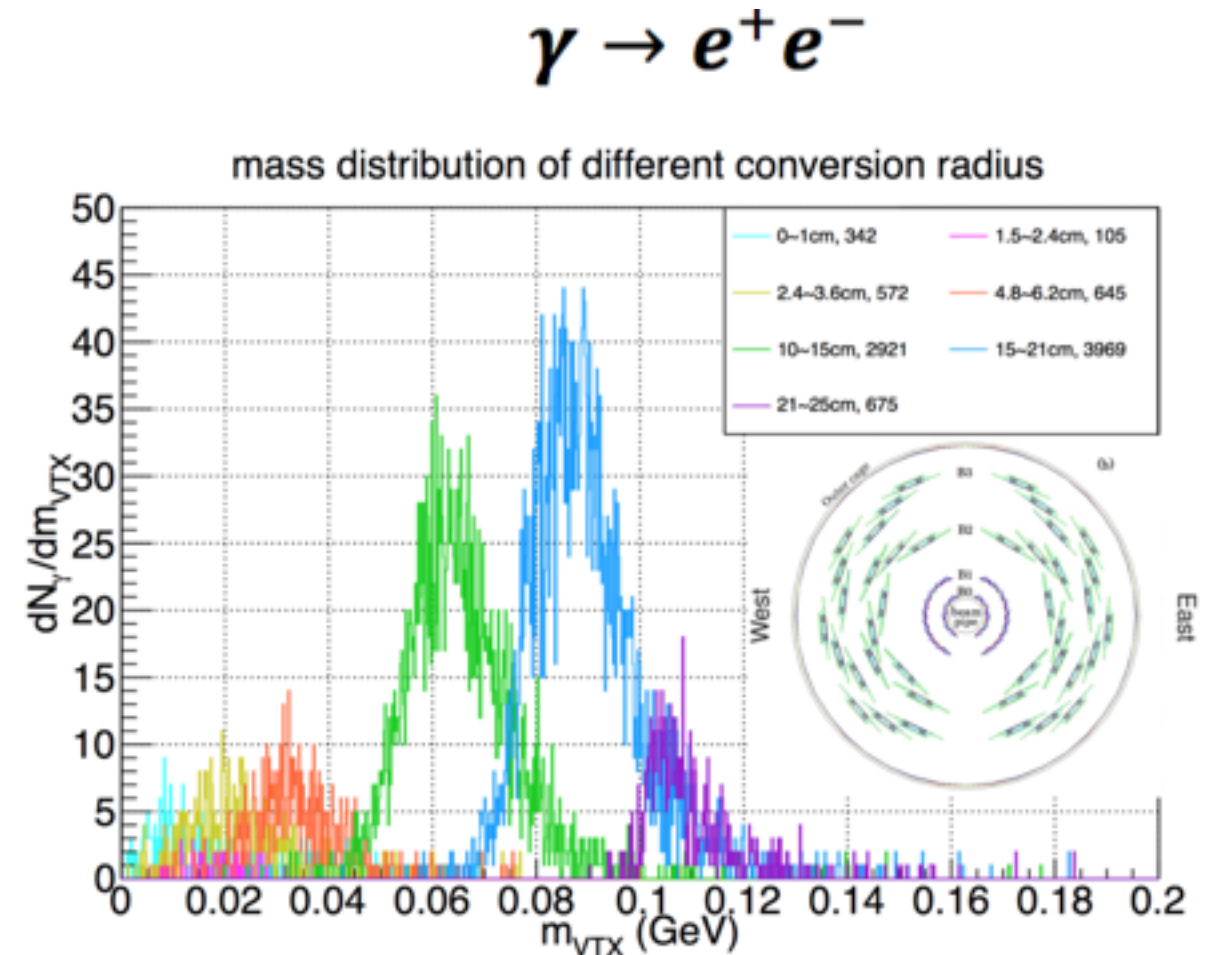
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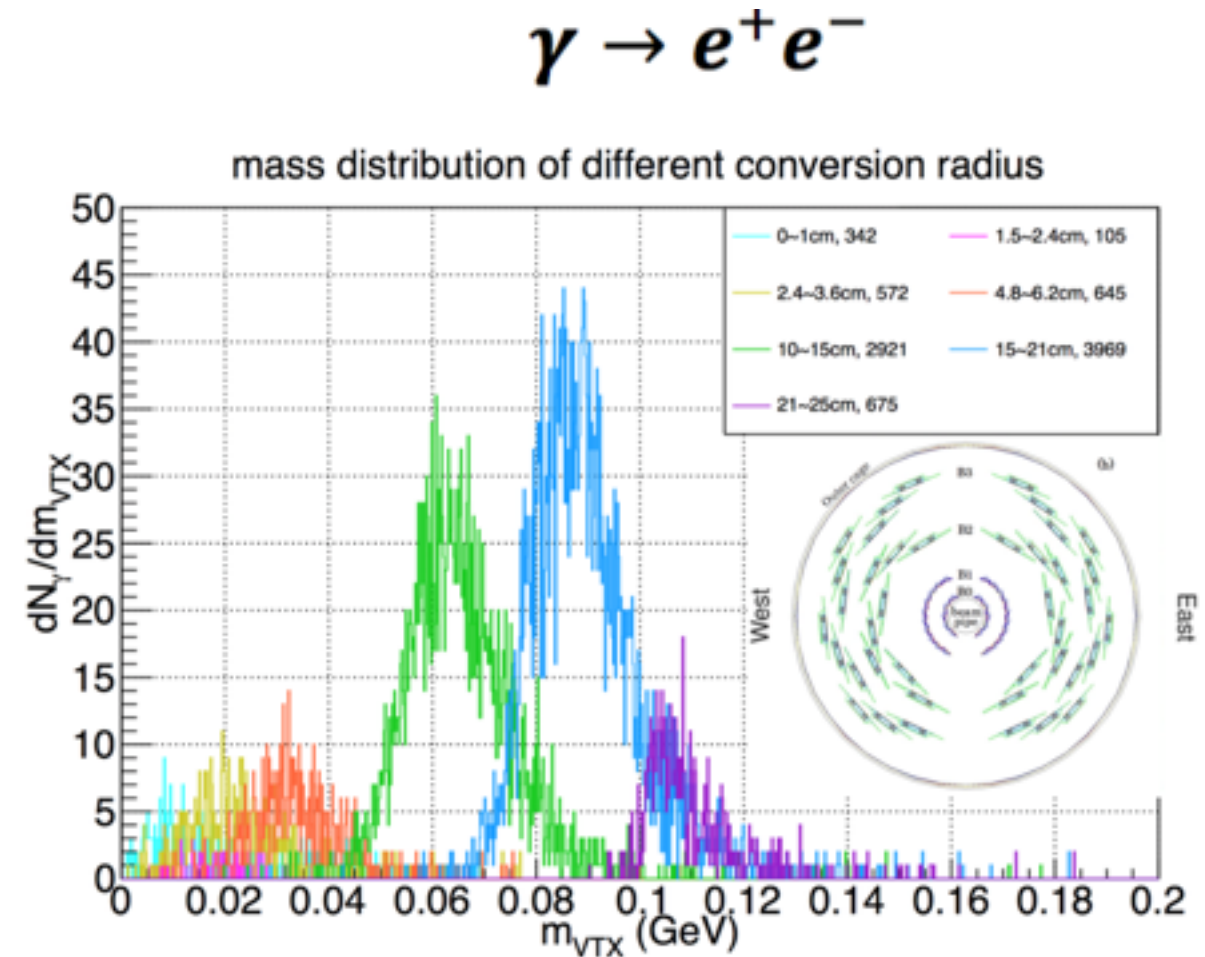
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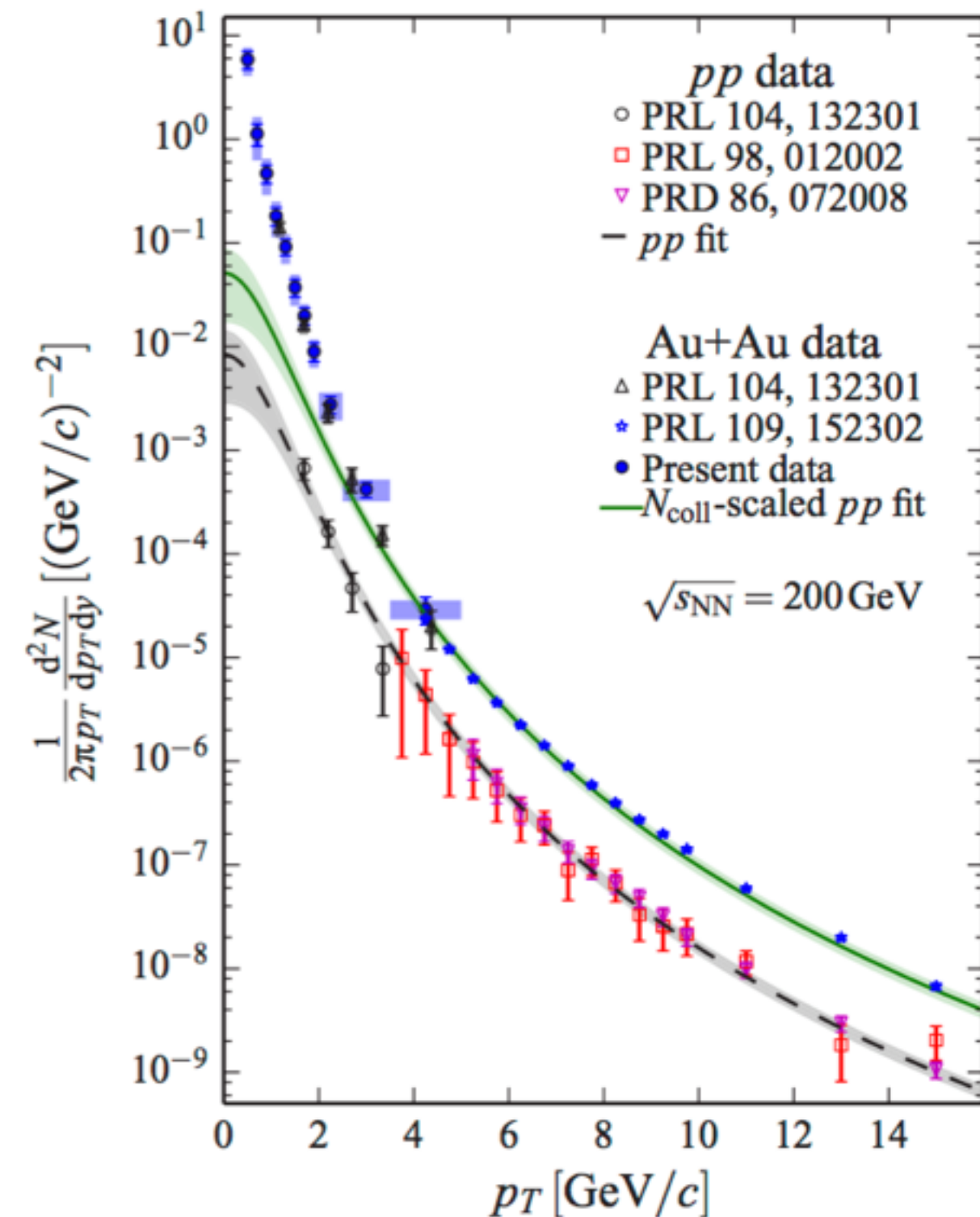
$$\gamma^{direct} = (R_\gamma - 1) \gamma^{hadron}$$



**Large systems**

# Direct photon in Au+Au 200 GeV

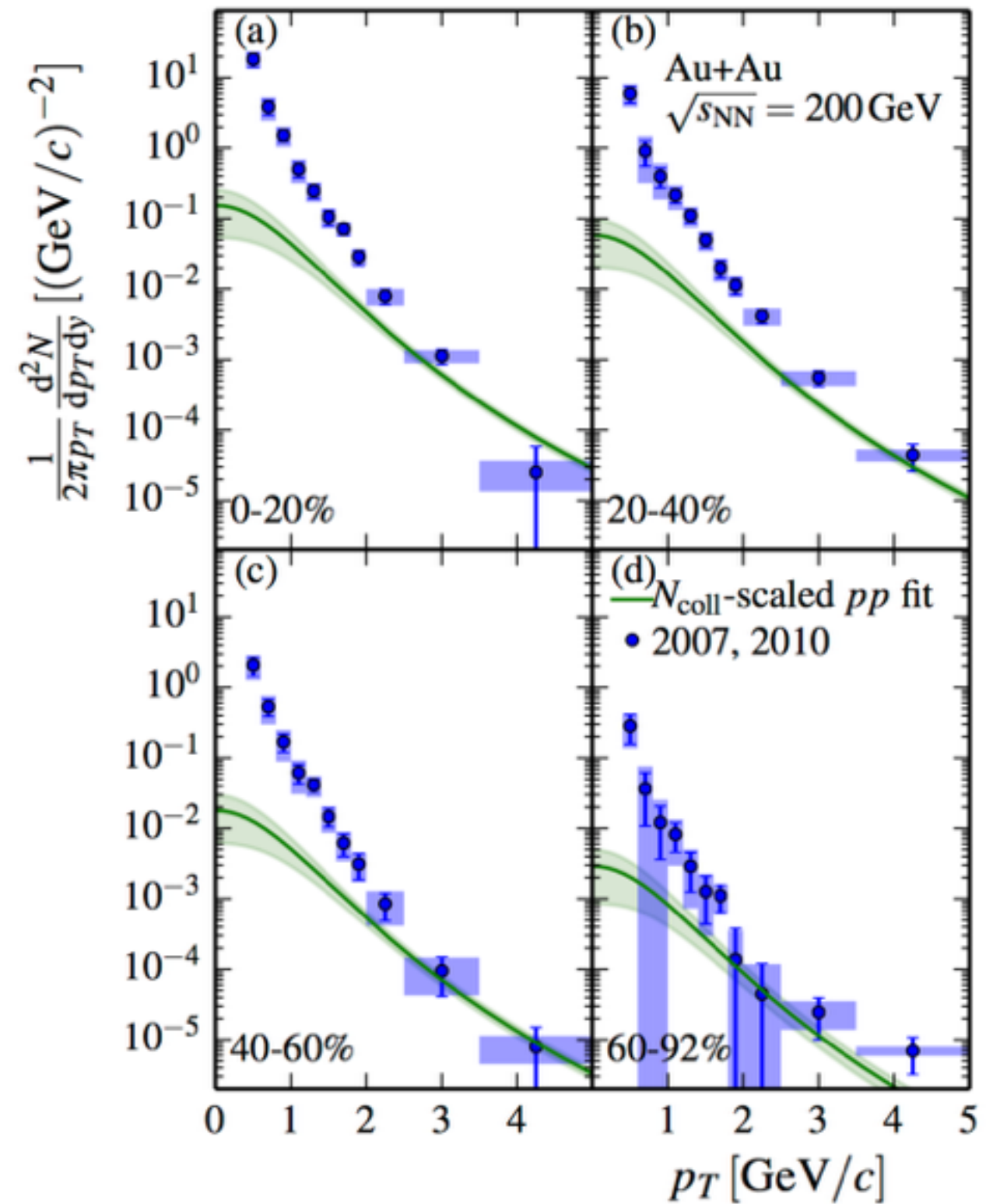
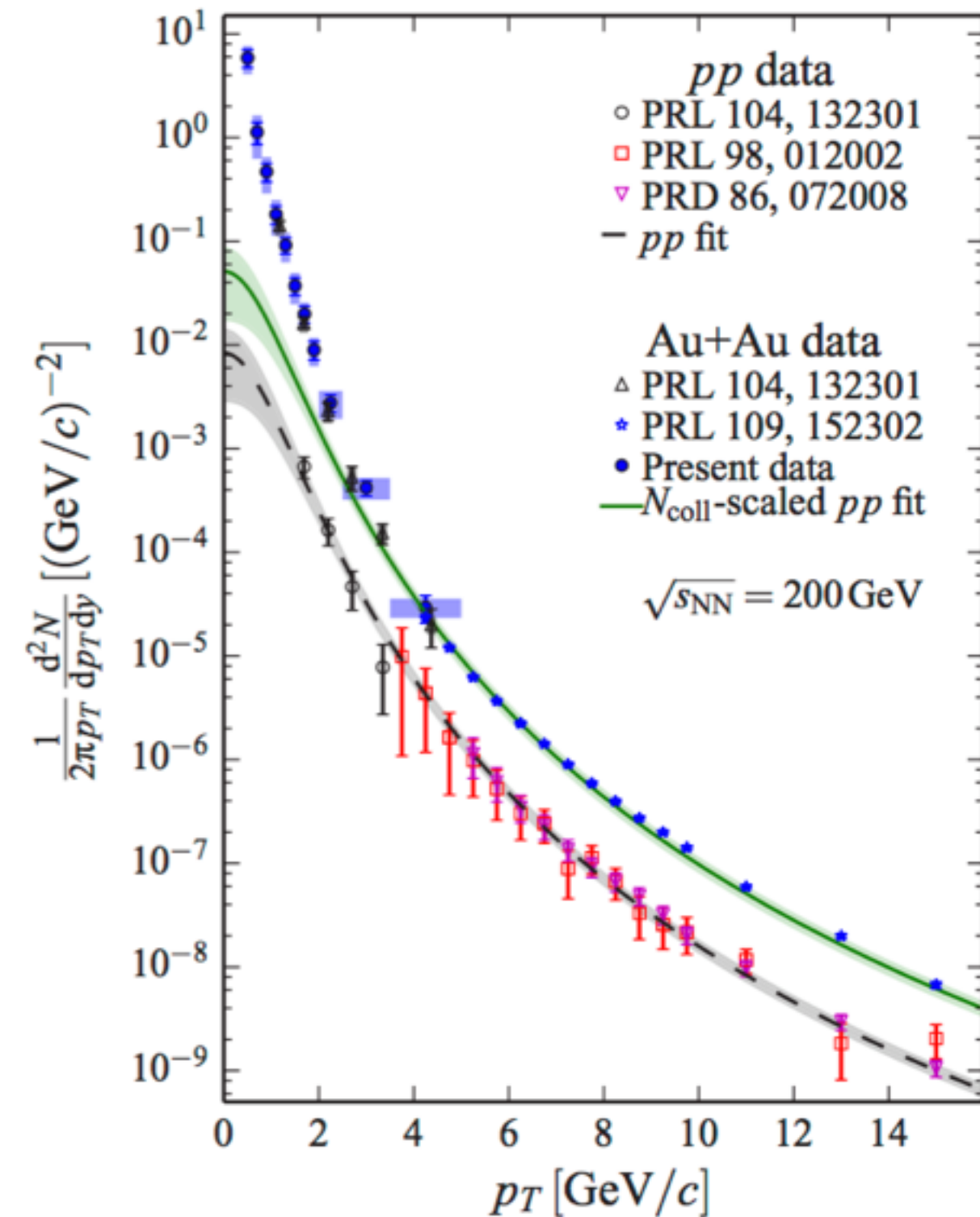
Phys. Rev. C 91 064904(2015)



- **Direct photon yield is well established**
  - pp consistent with pQCD
  - AuAu follows  $N_{\text{coll}}$  scaled pp above 4 GeV
  - Significant excess below 3 GeV in Au+Au 200 GeV
  - Excess has nearly exponential shape

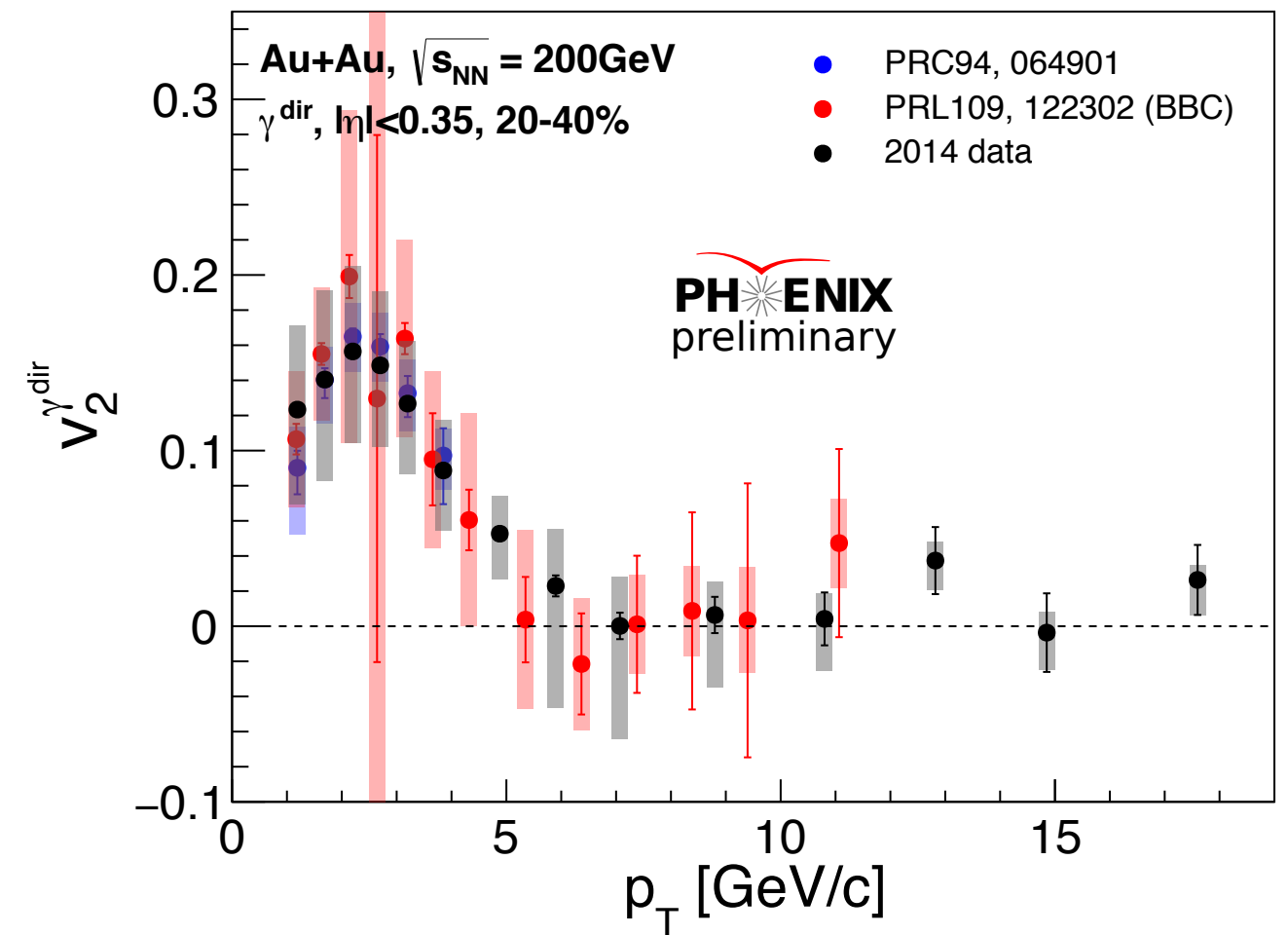
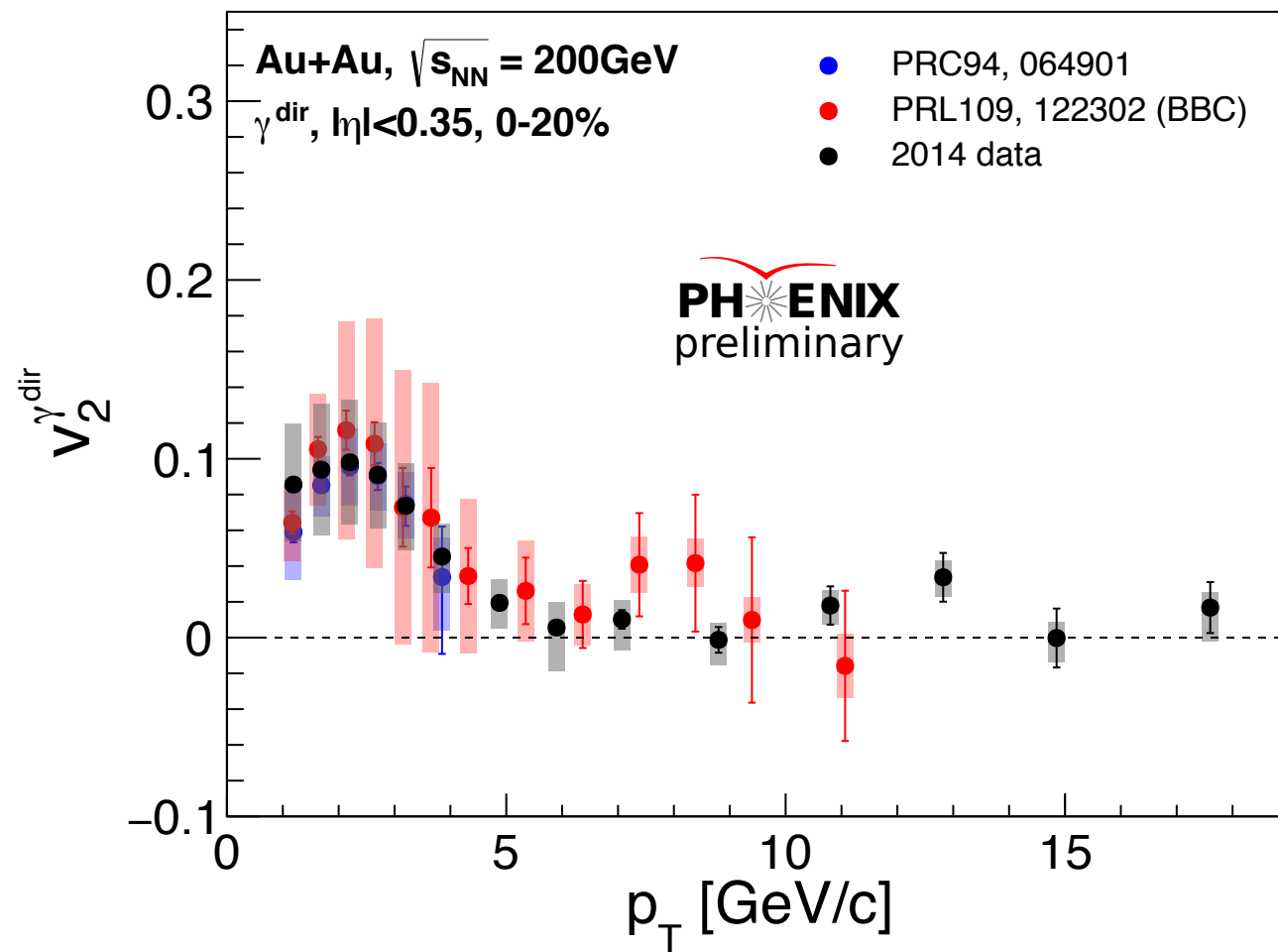
# Direct photon in Au+Au 200 GeV

Phys. Rev. C 91 064904(2015)



There is no strong centrality dependence in the slope

# Update: Direct photon v2 in Au+Au 200 GeV



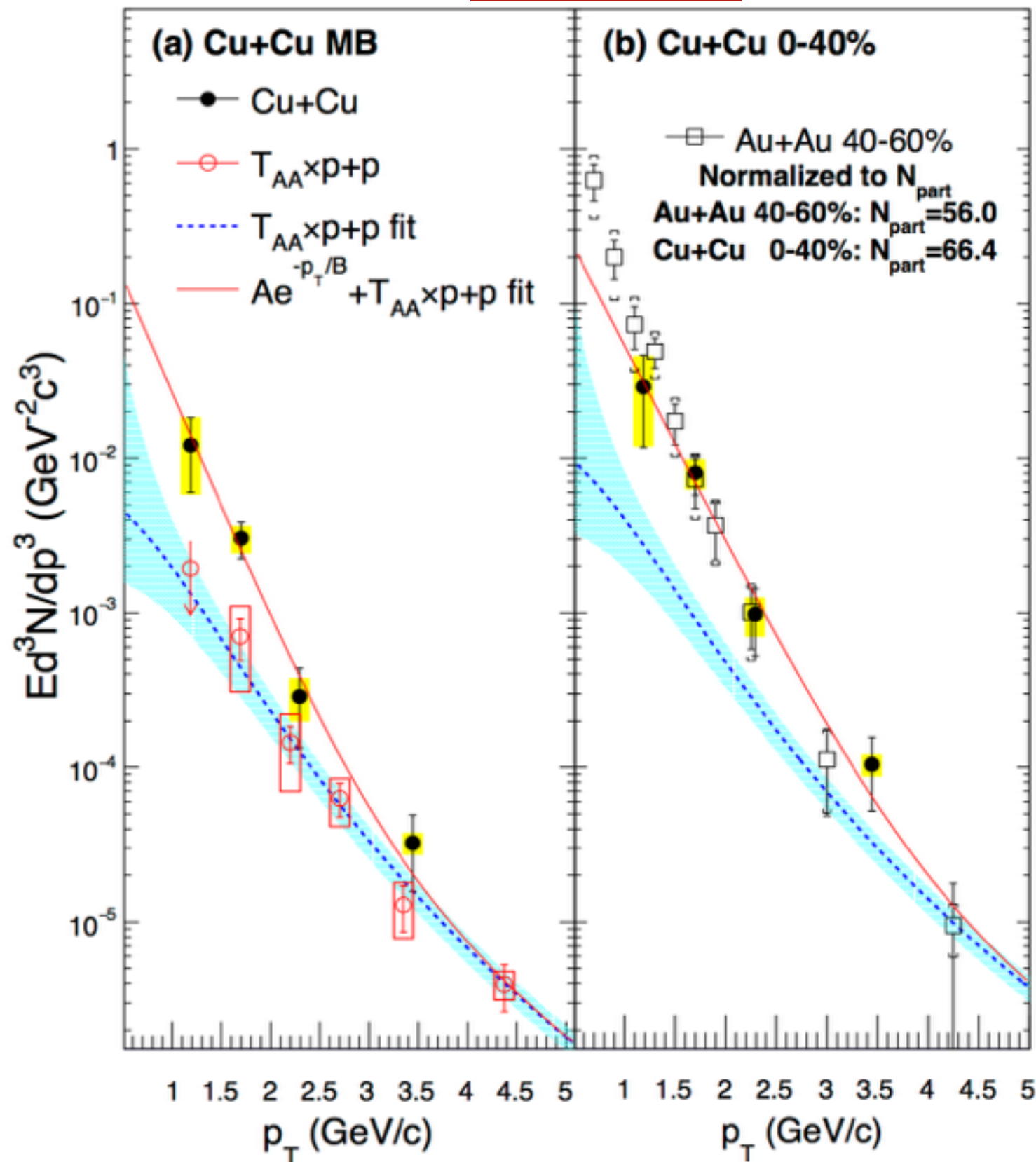
$$v_n^{\text{dir}} = \frac{R_\gamma v_n^{\text{inc}} - v_n^{\text{dec}}}{R_\gamma - 1}$$

- We improved v2 measurement
- v2 high  $p_T$  compatible with zero (direct photon source is hard scattering)



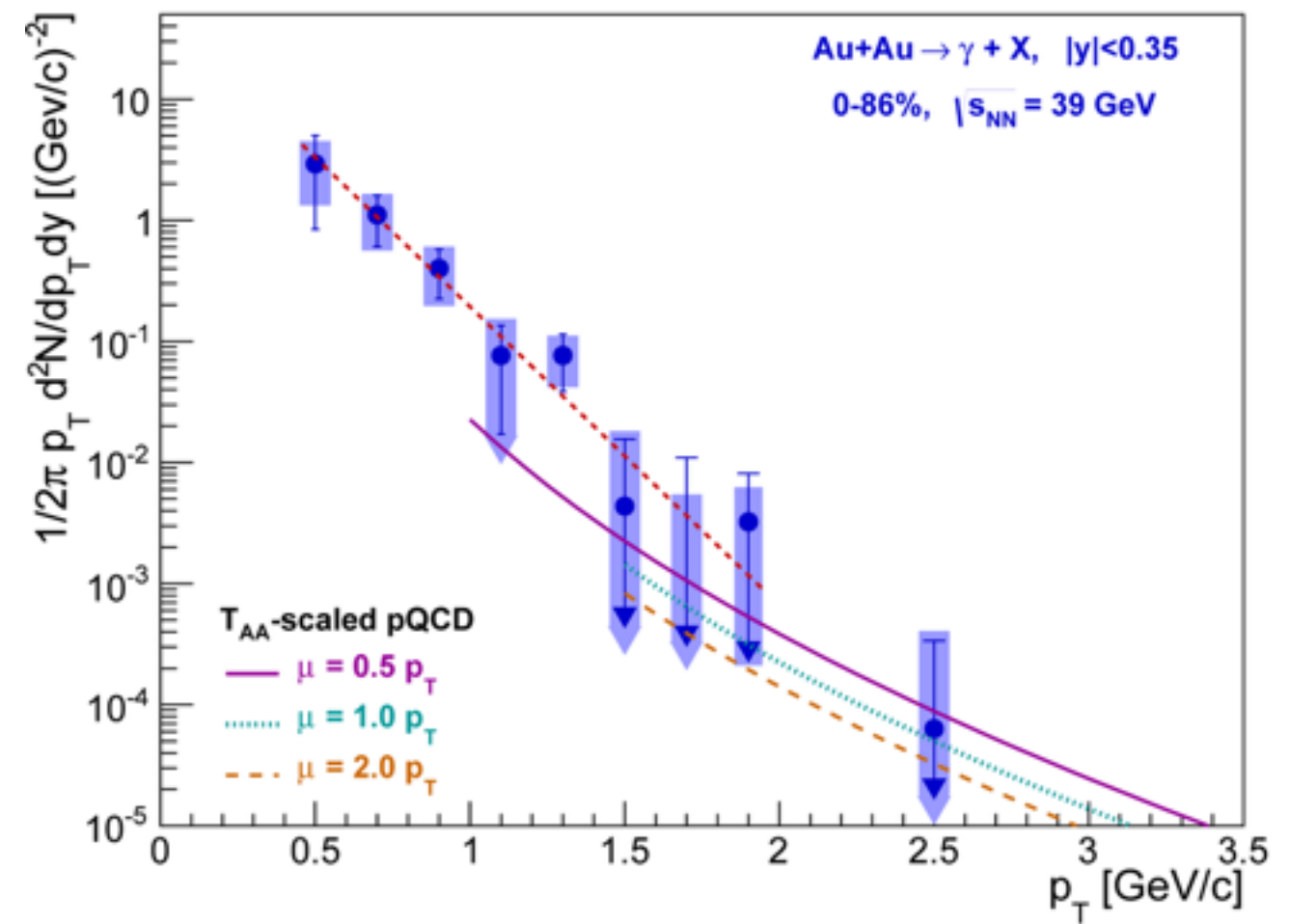
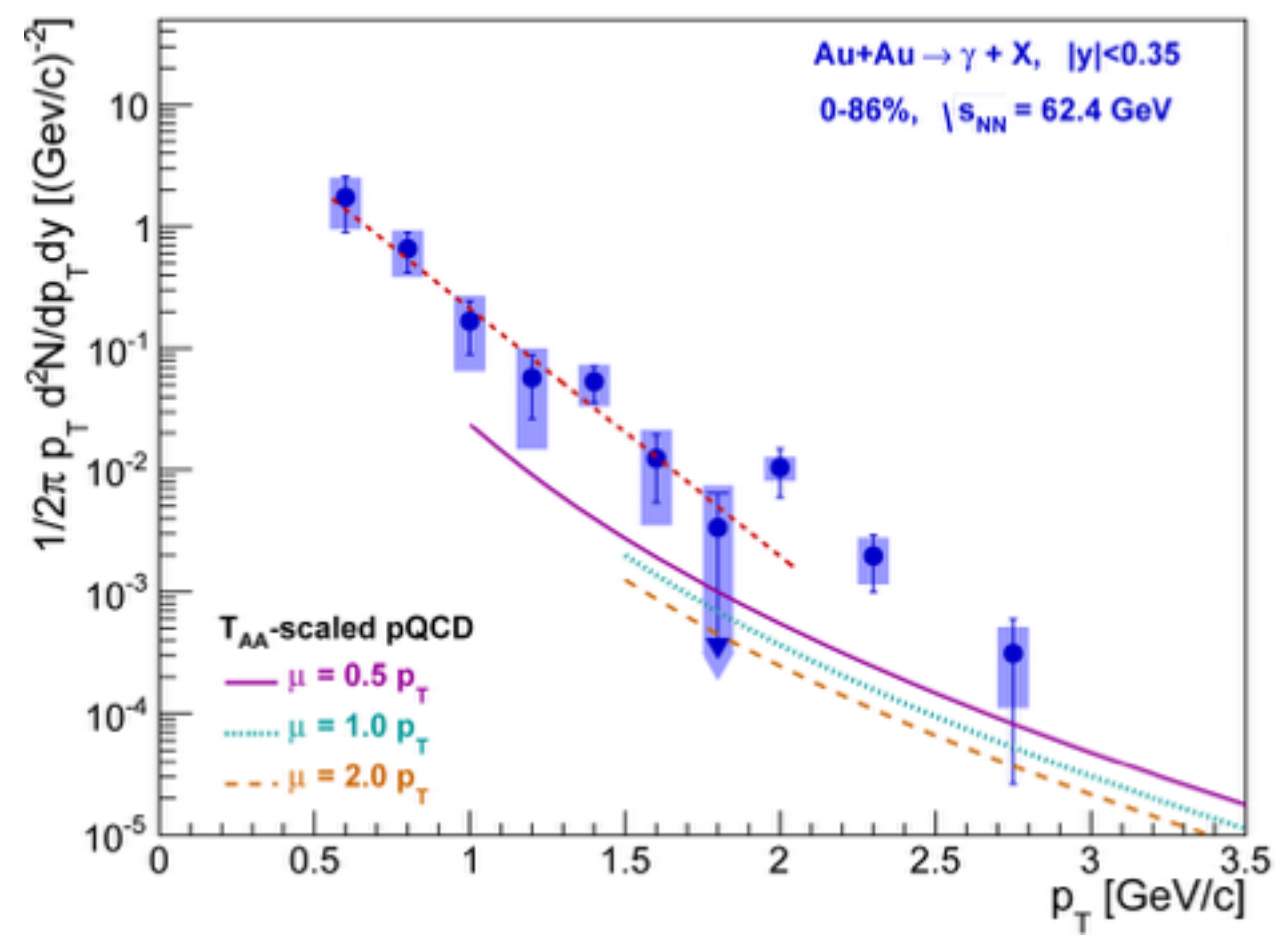
# Cu+Cu 200 GeV

arXiv:1805.04066



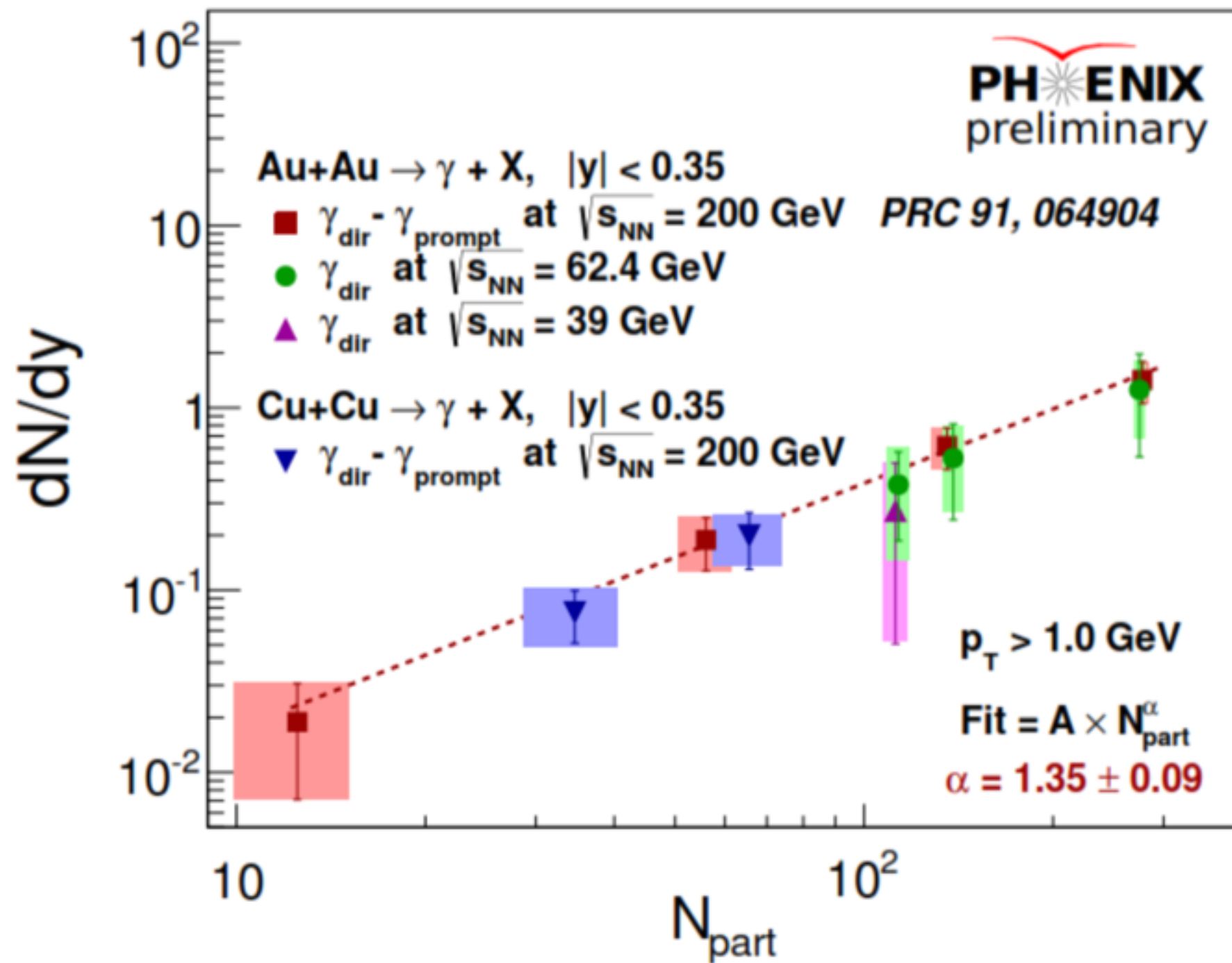
\*Consistent with Au+Au 200 GeV results at similar  $N_{part}$

# Au+Au 62.4 GeV and 39 GeV



- Clear direct photon signal in Au+Au at 62.4 GeV and 39 GeV

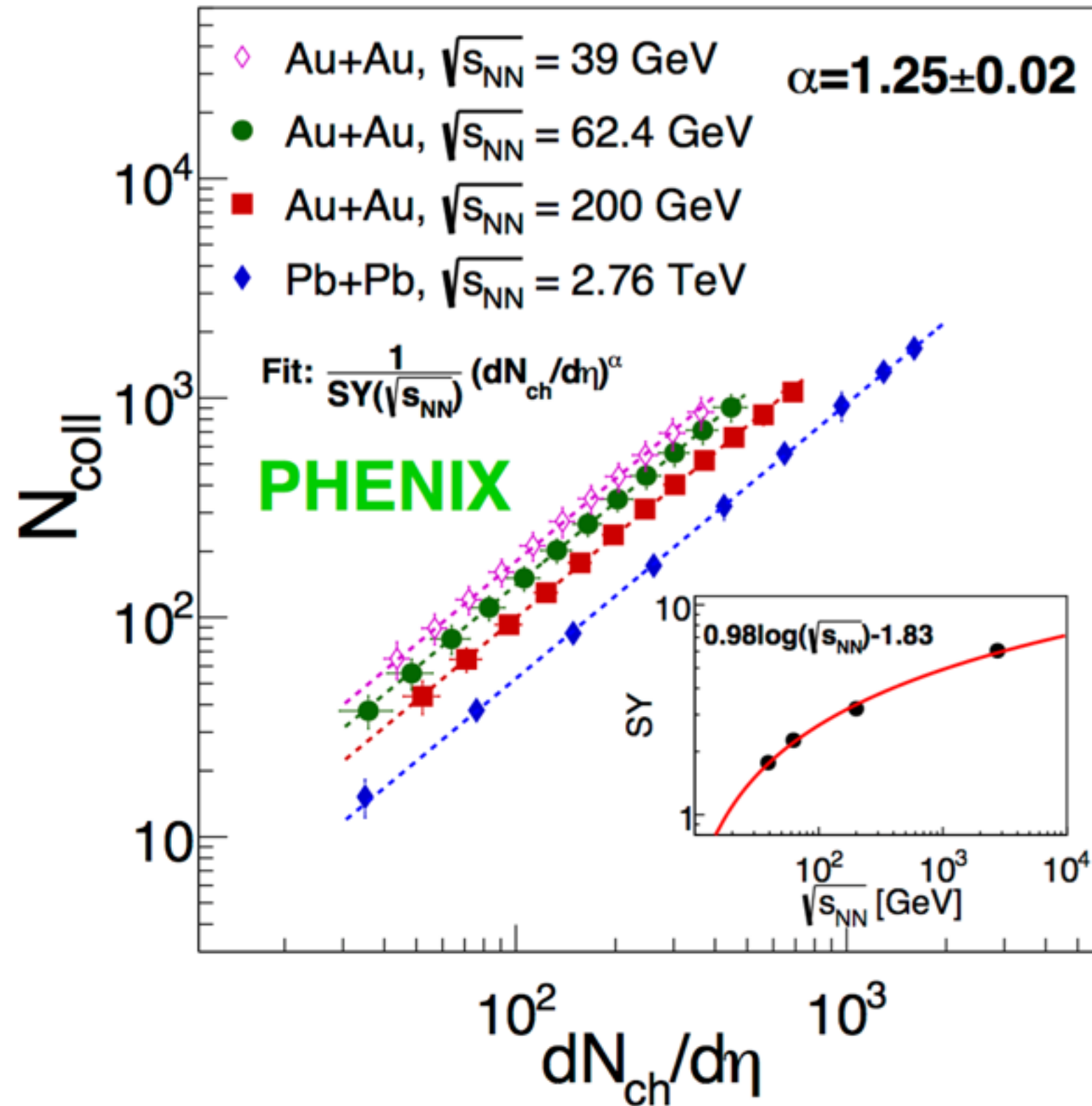
# Integrated Yield vs N<sub>part</sub>



- Similar increase with  $N_{\text{part}}$  for different systems
- $N_{\text{part}}$  saturates at same value for similar size systems at different beam energies  
 —> Limitations to compare different collision energies

# Interplay between soft and hard scale

arXiv:1805.04084



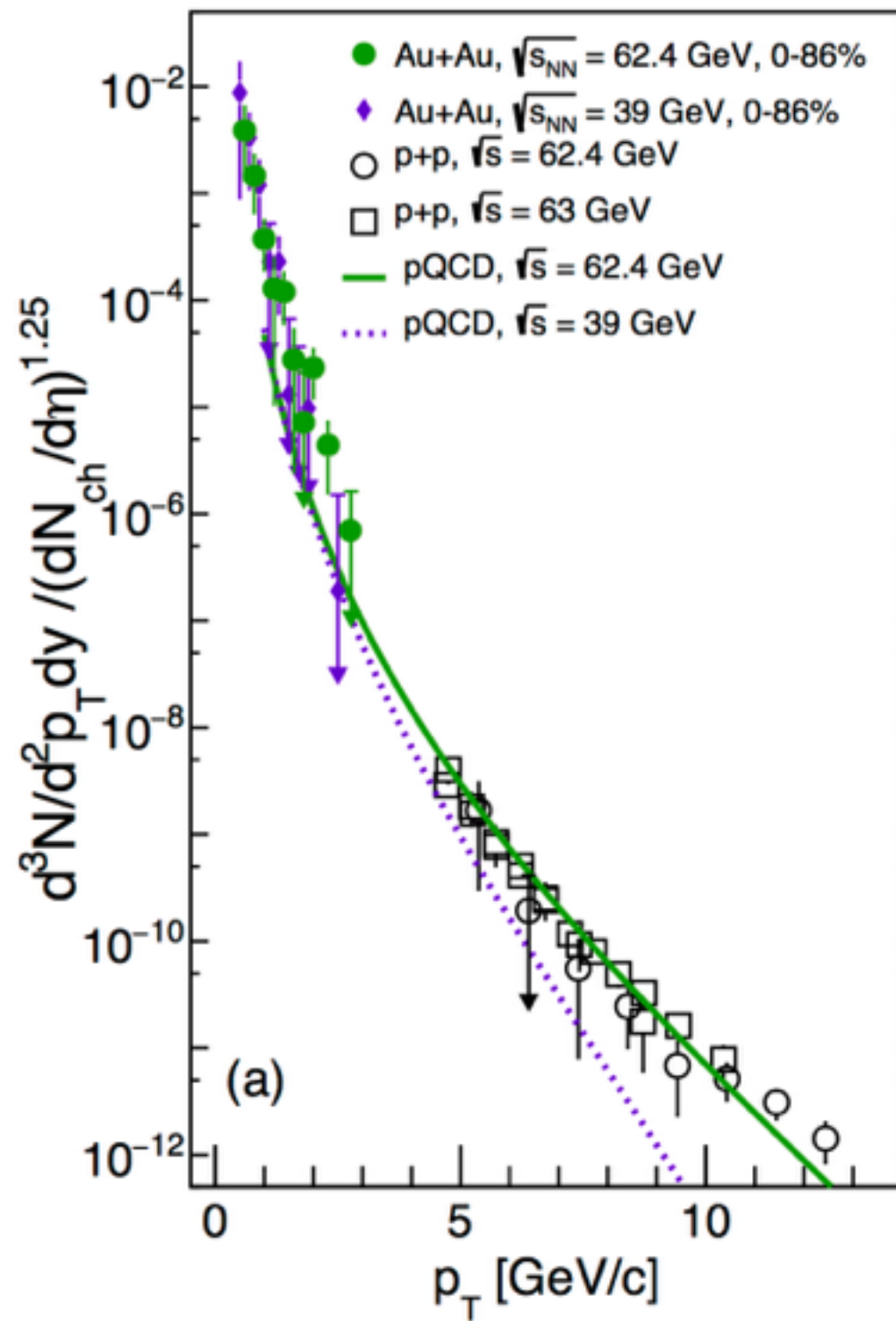
$$N_{coll} = \frac{1}{SY(\sqrt{s_{NN}})} \left( \frac{dN_{ch}}{d\eta} \right)^\alpha$$

$$SY(\sqrt{s_{NN}}) = c_1 \log(\sqrt{s_{NN}}) - c_2$$



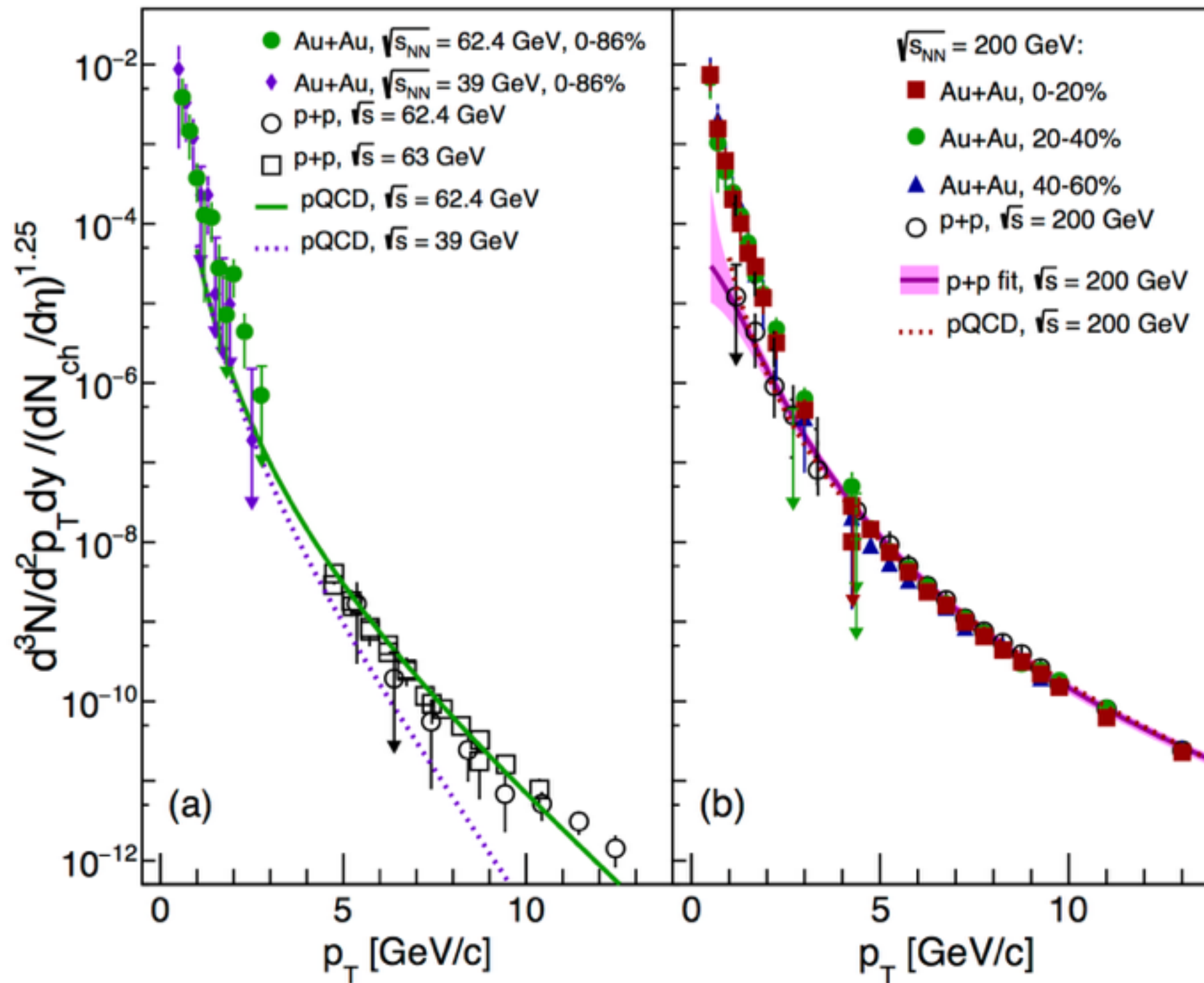
# Direct photon scaling

arXiv:1805.04084



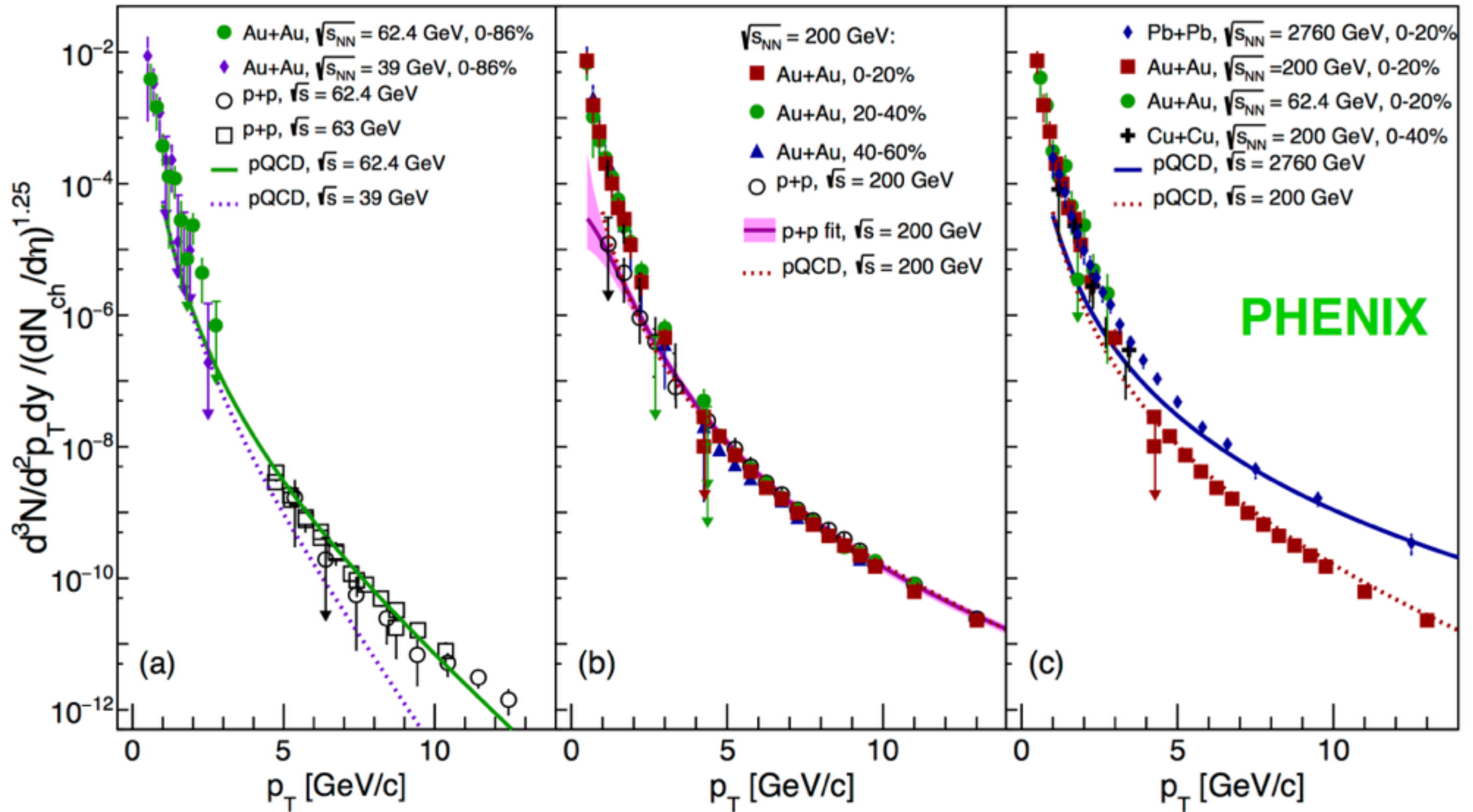
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arXiv:1805.04084



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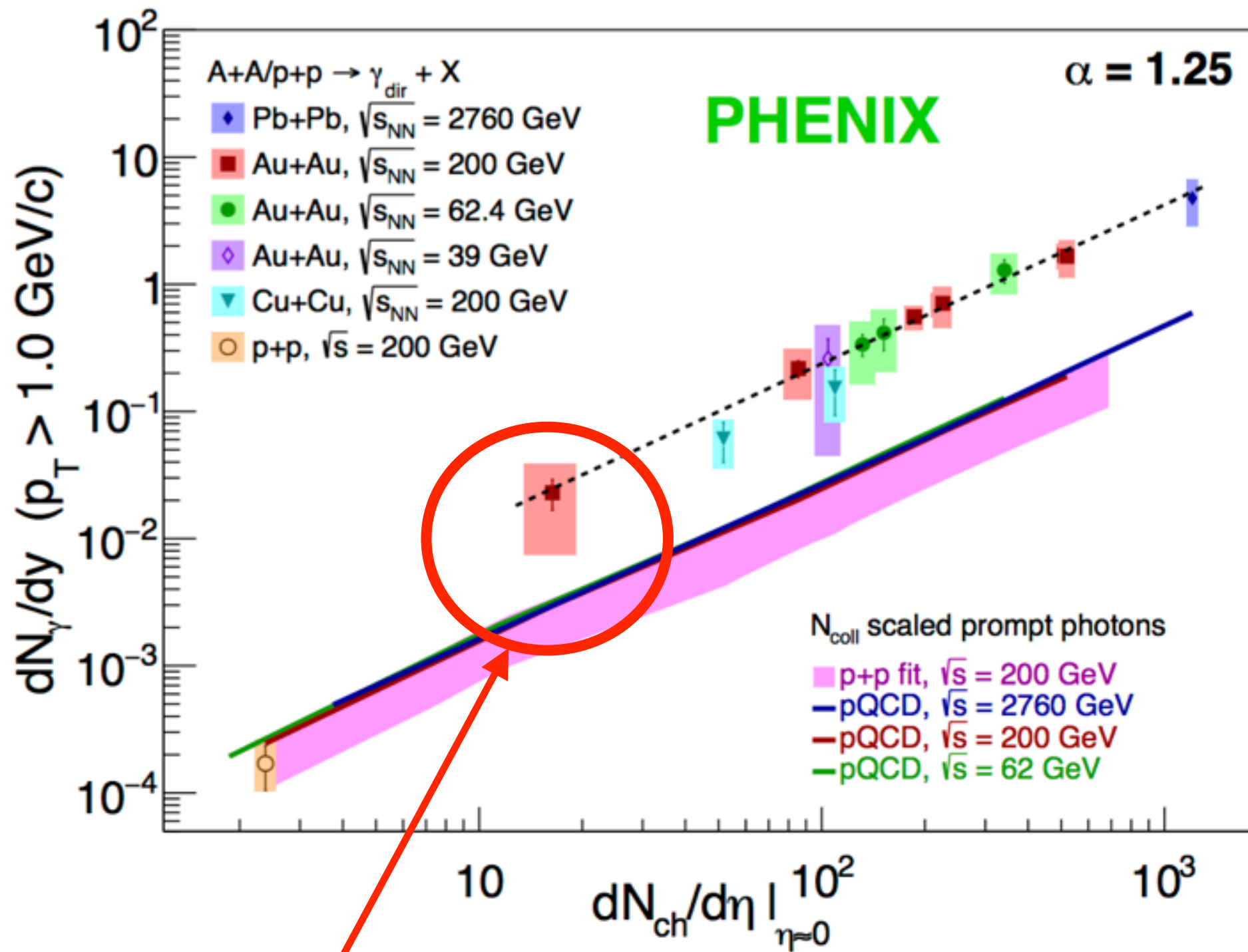
arXiv:1805.04084



Universal behavior at low  $p_T$

# Direct photon scaling

arXiv:1805.04084

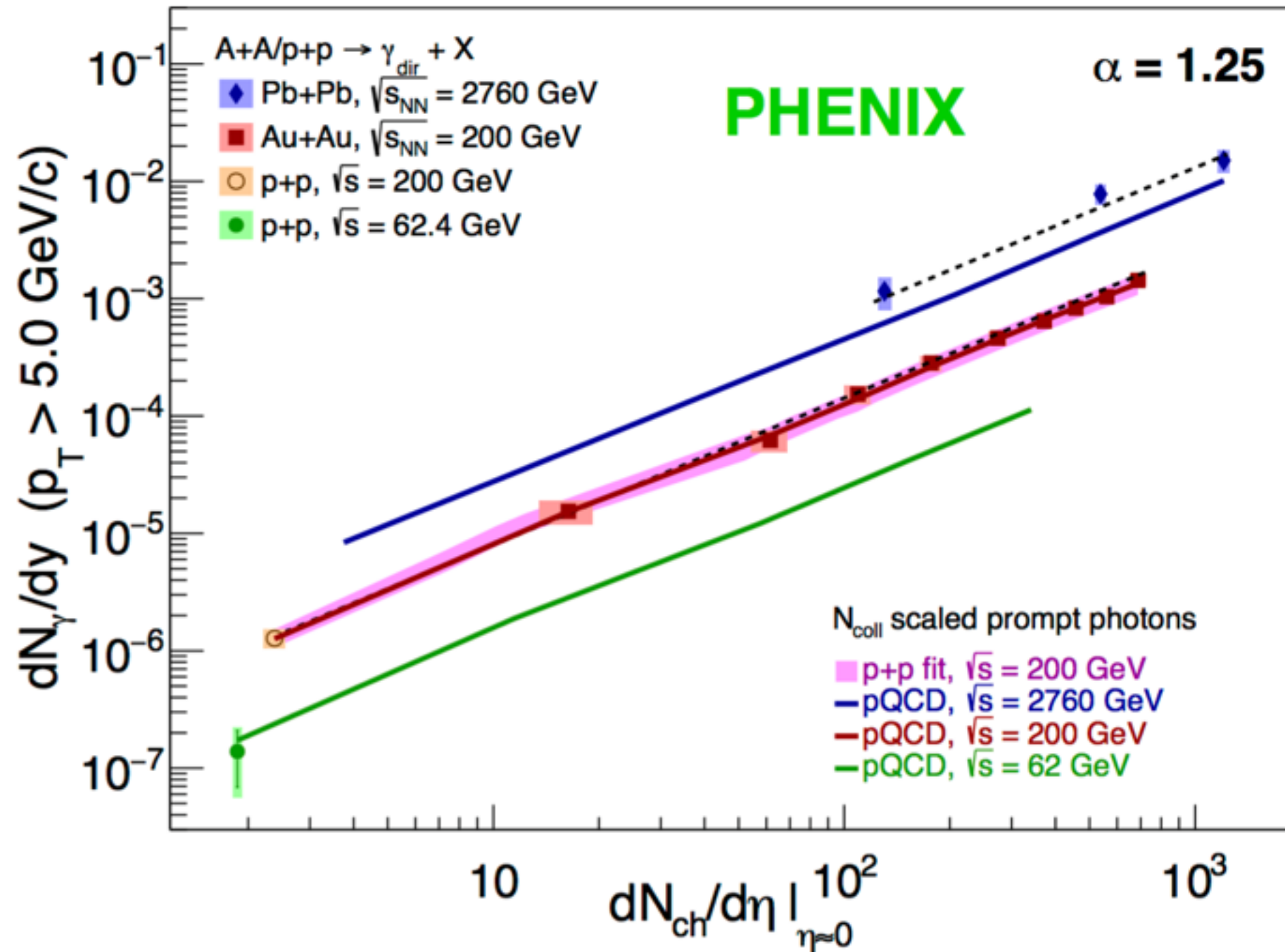


small systems



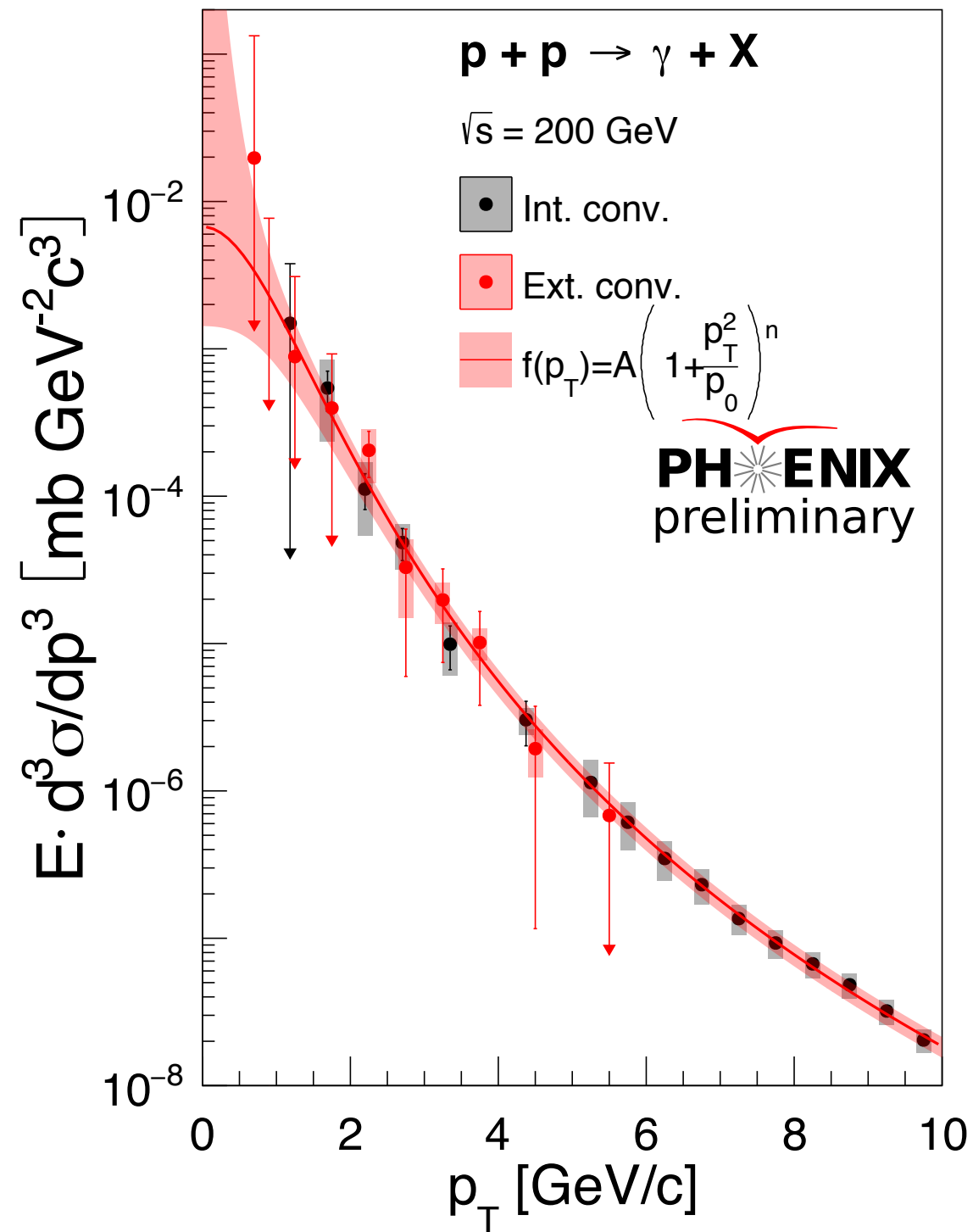
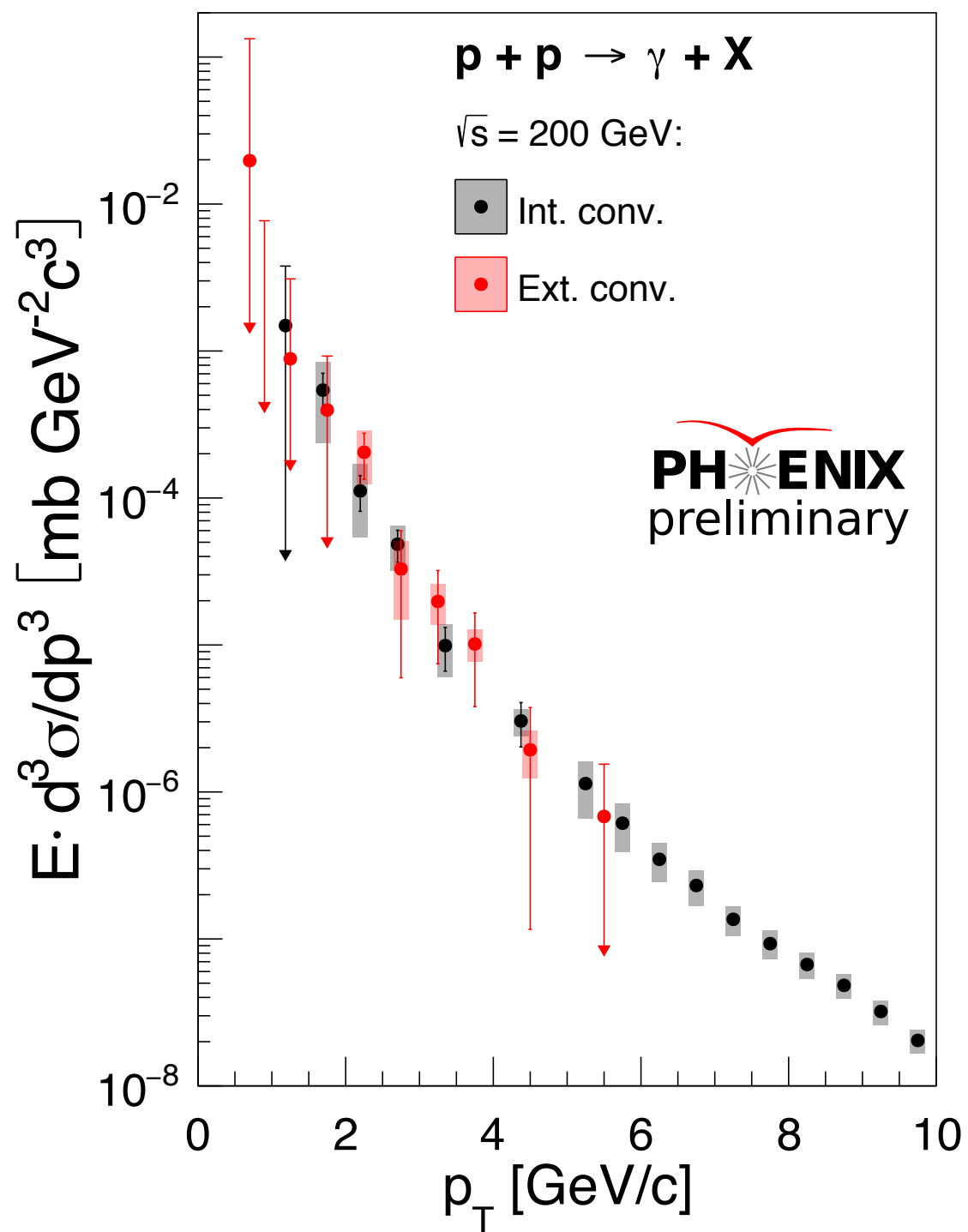
# Direct photon scaling

arXiv:1805.04084



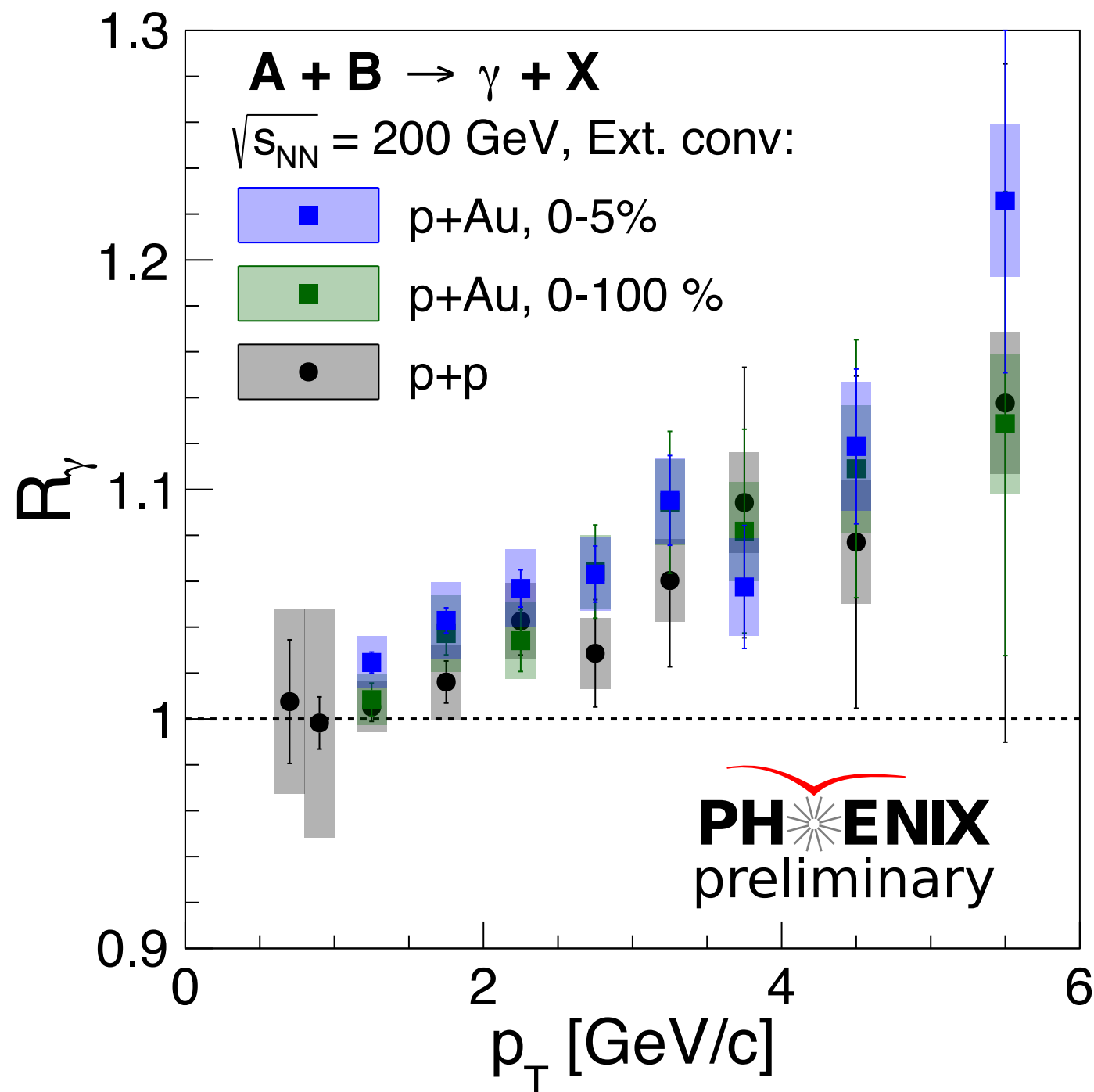
**Small systems**

# p+p 200 GeV



New fit using three different data sets

# New result p+Au 200 GeV

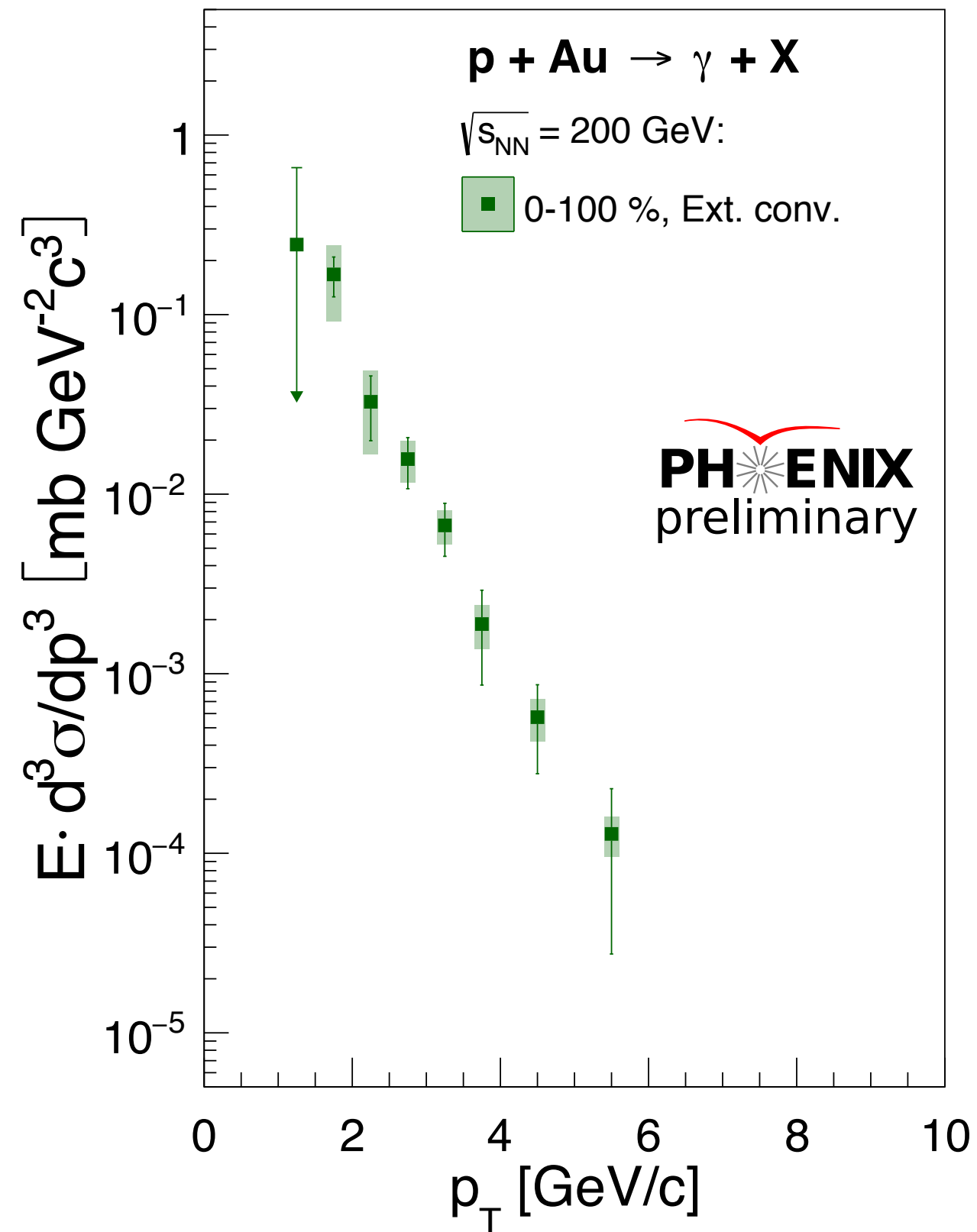


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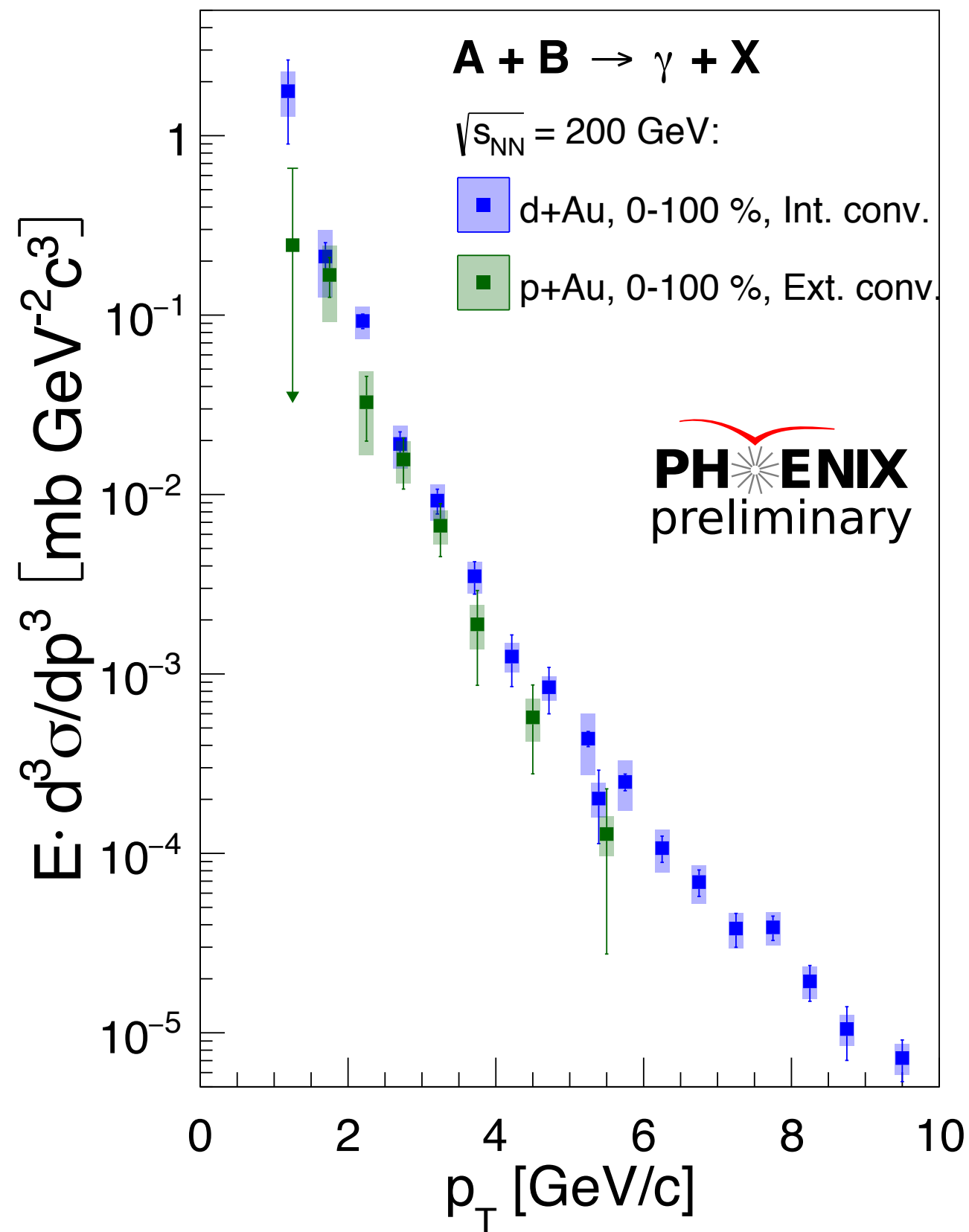
$$\gamma^{direct} = (R_\gamma - 1) \gamma^{hadron}$$



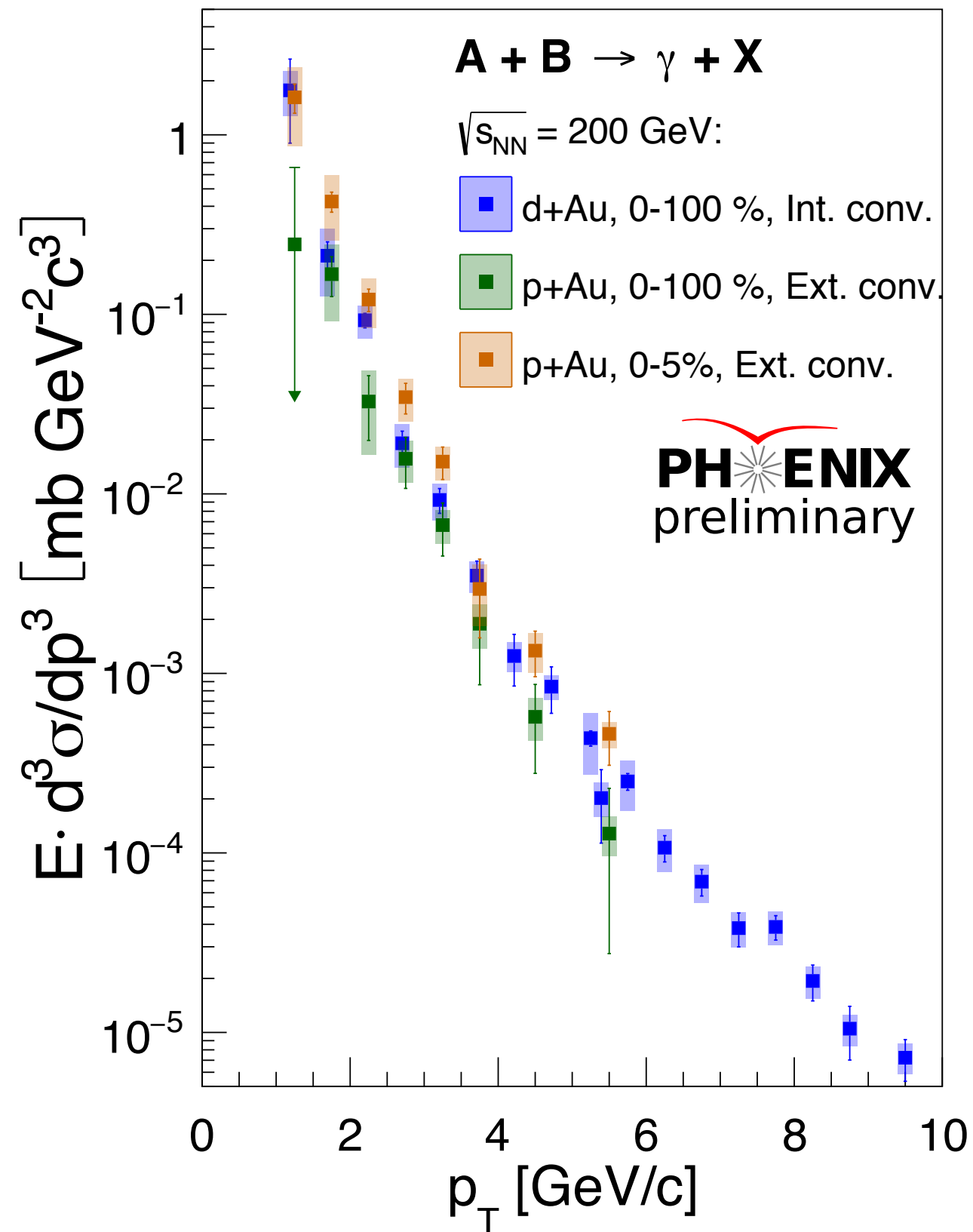
# p+Au 200 GeV



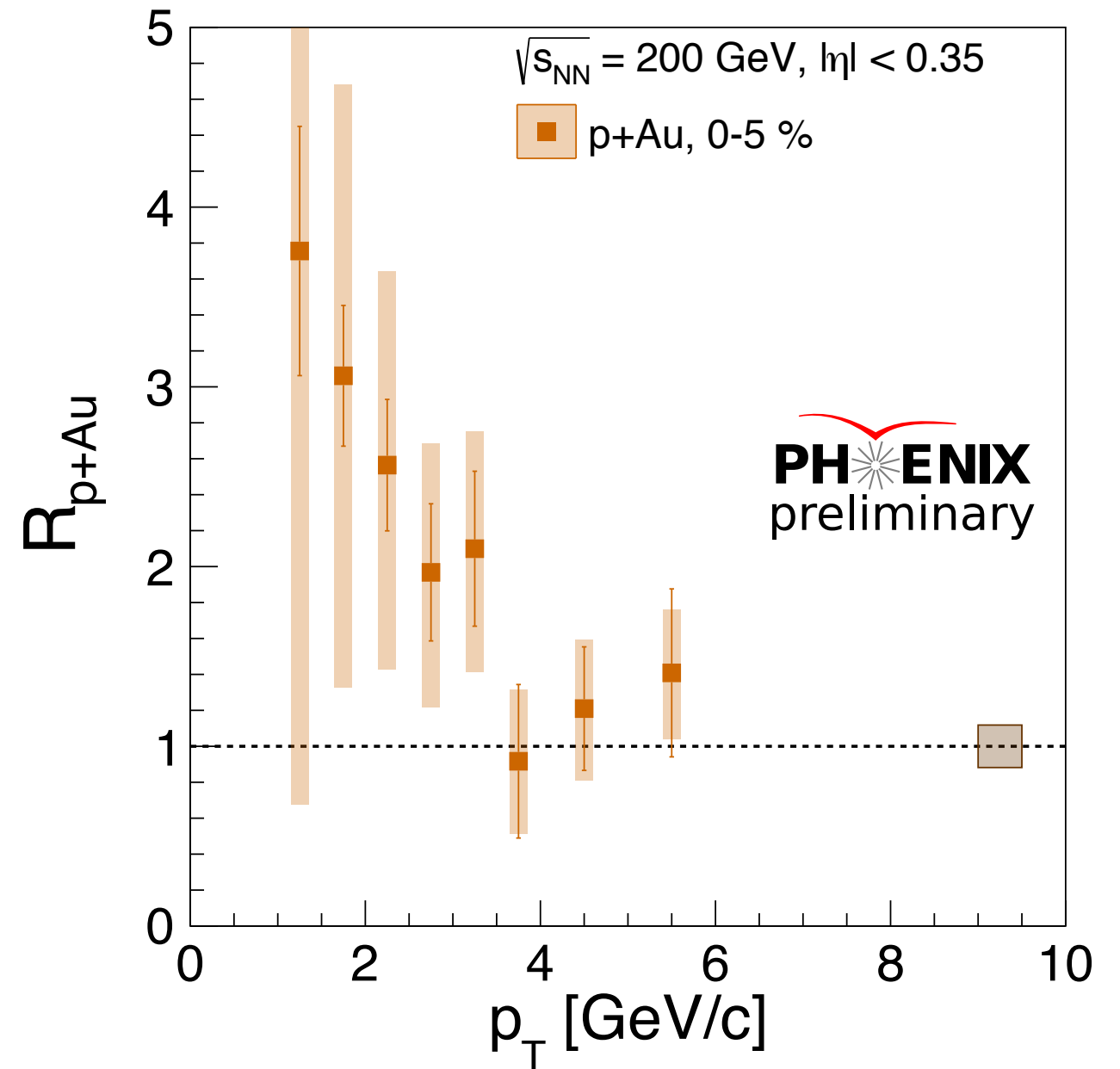
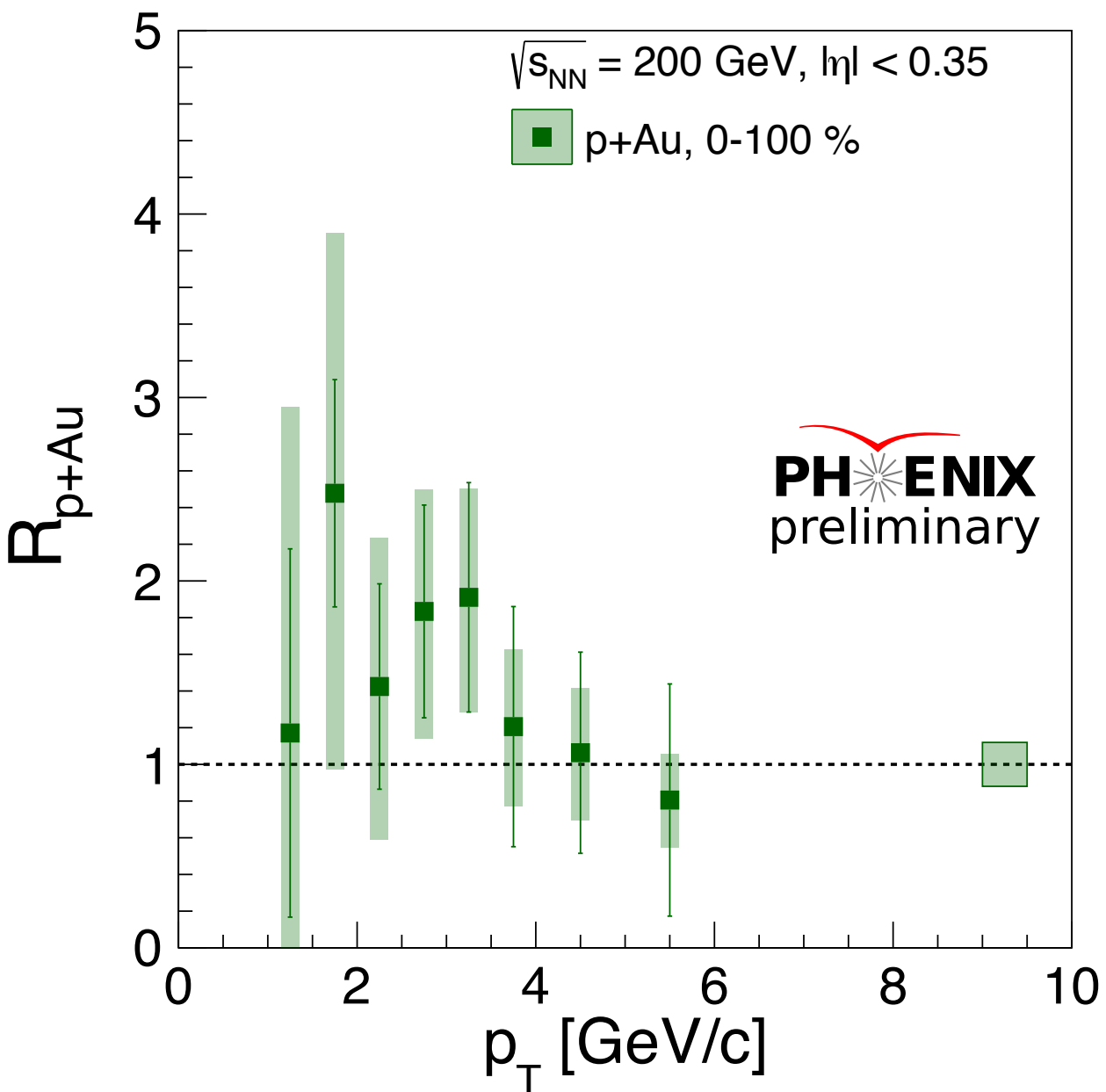
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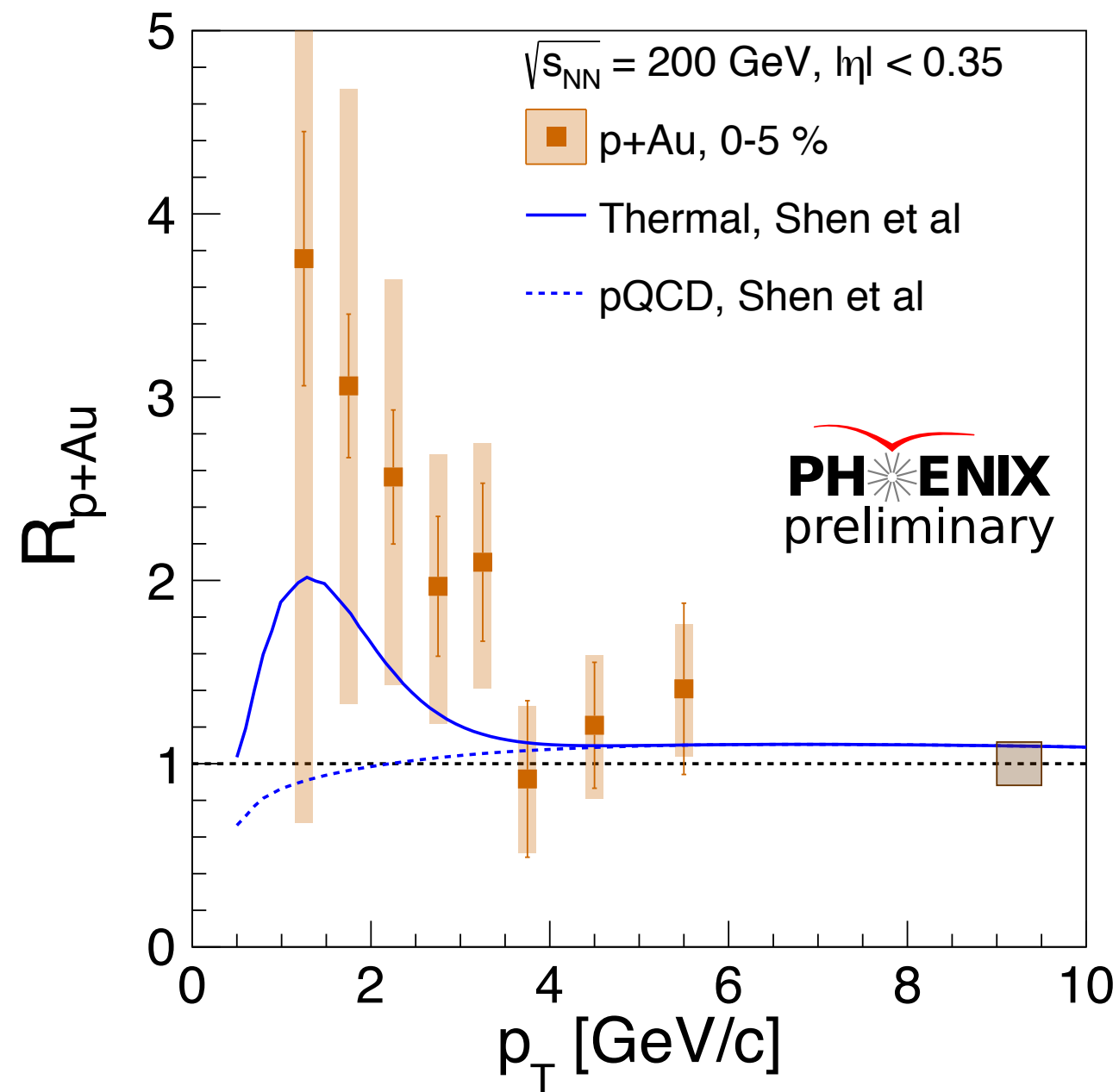
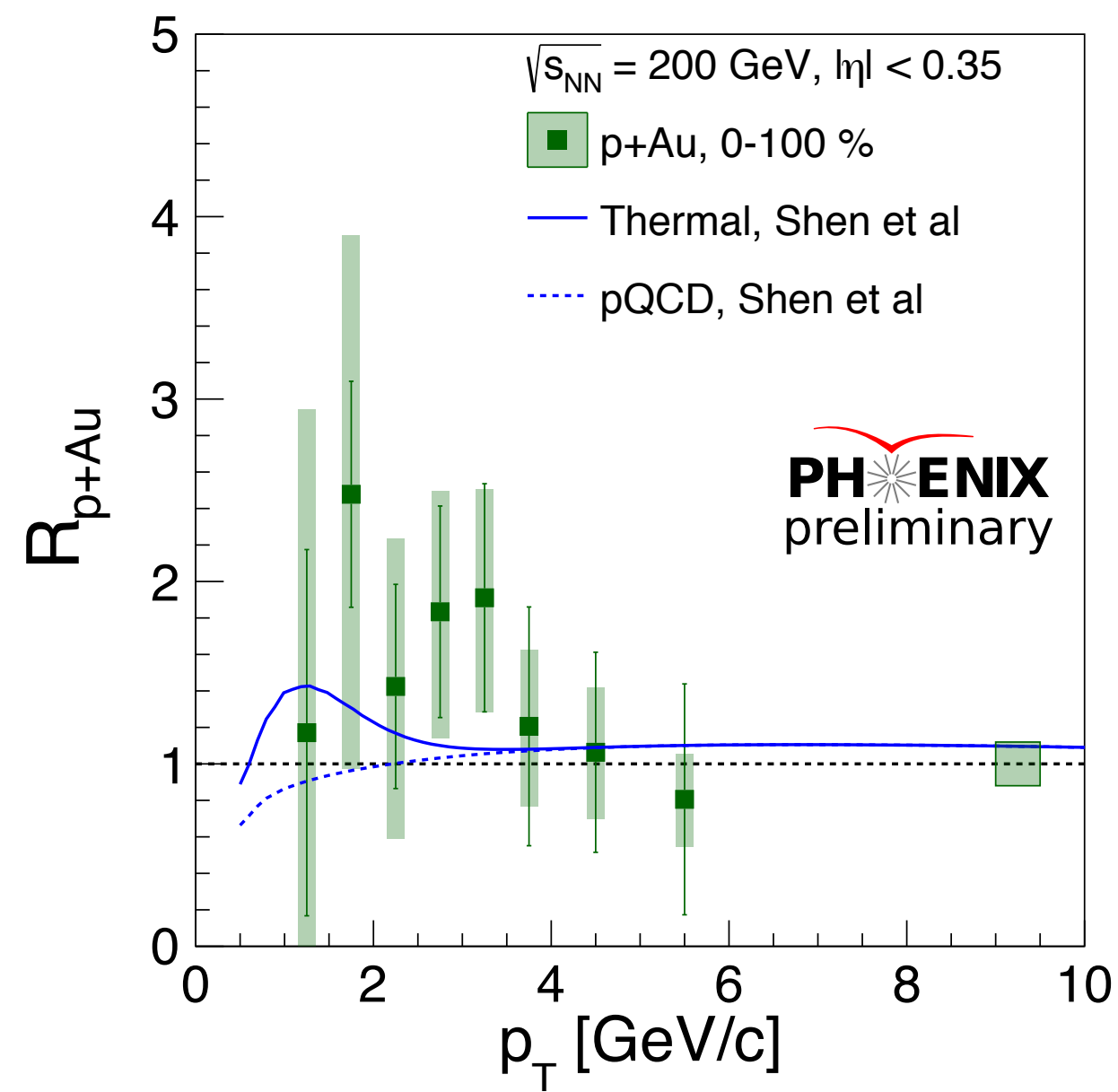


# R\_p+Au 200 GeV



$$R_{AA} = \frac{d^2 N^{AA} / dp_T d\eta}{\langle N_{coll} \rangle d^2 N^{pp} / dp_T d\eta}$$

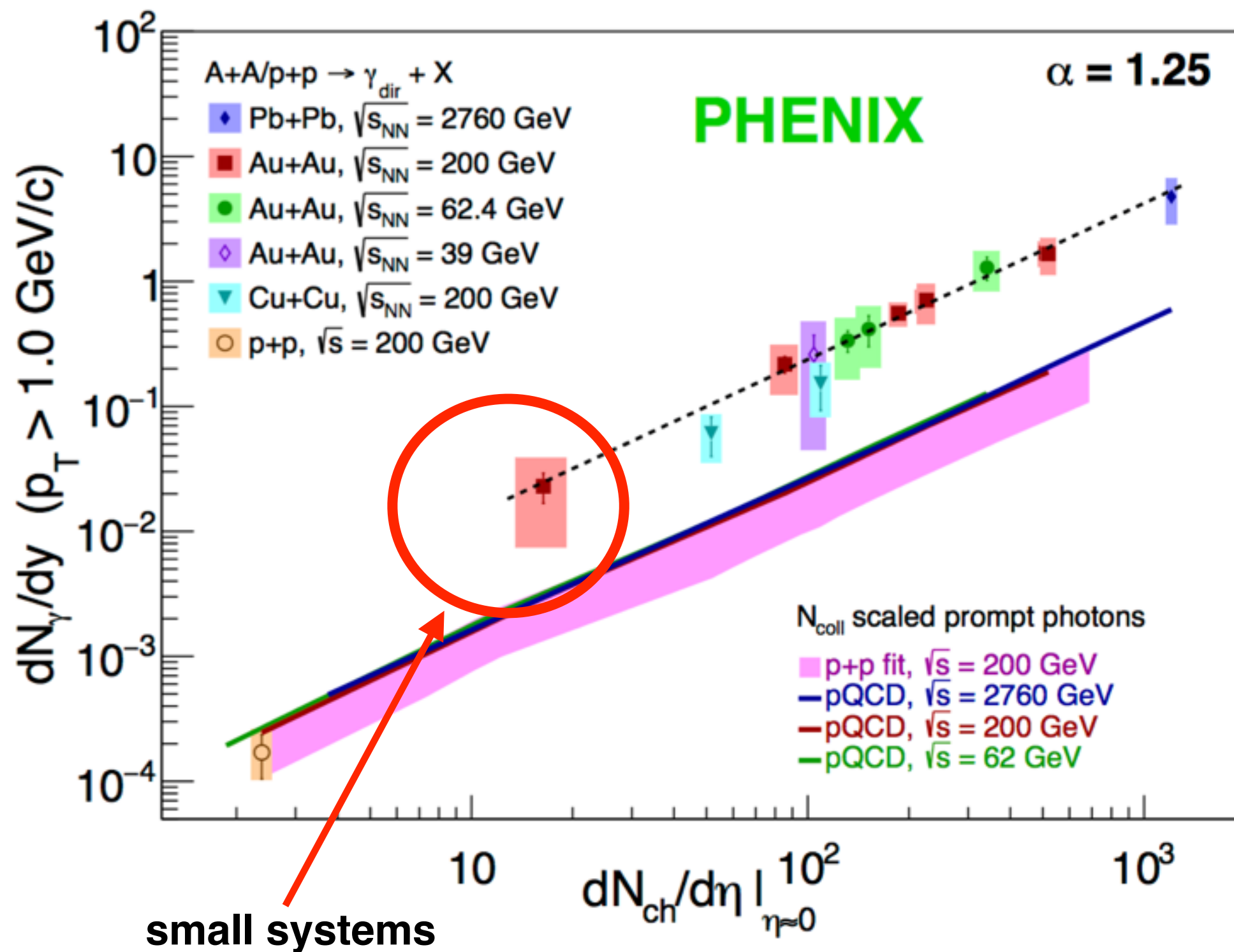
# R<sub>p+Au</sub> 200 GeV



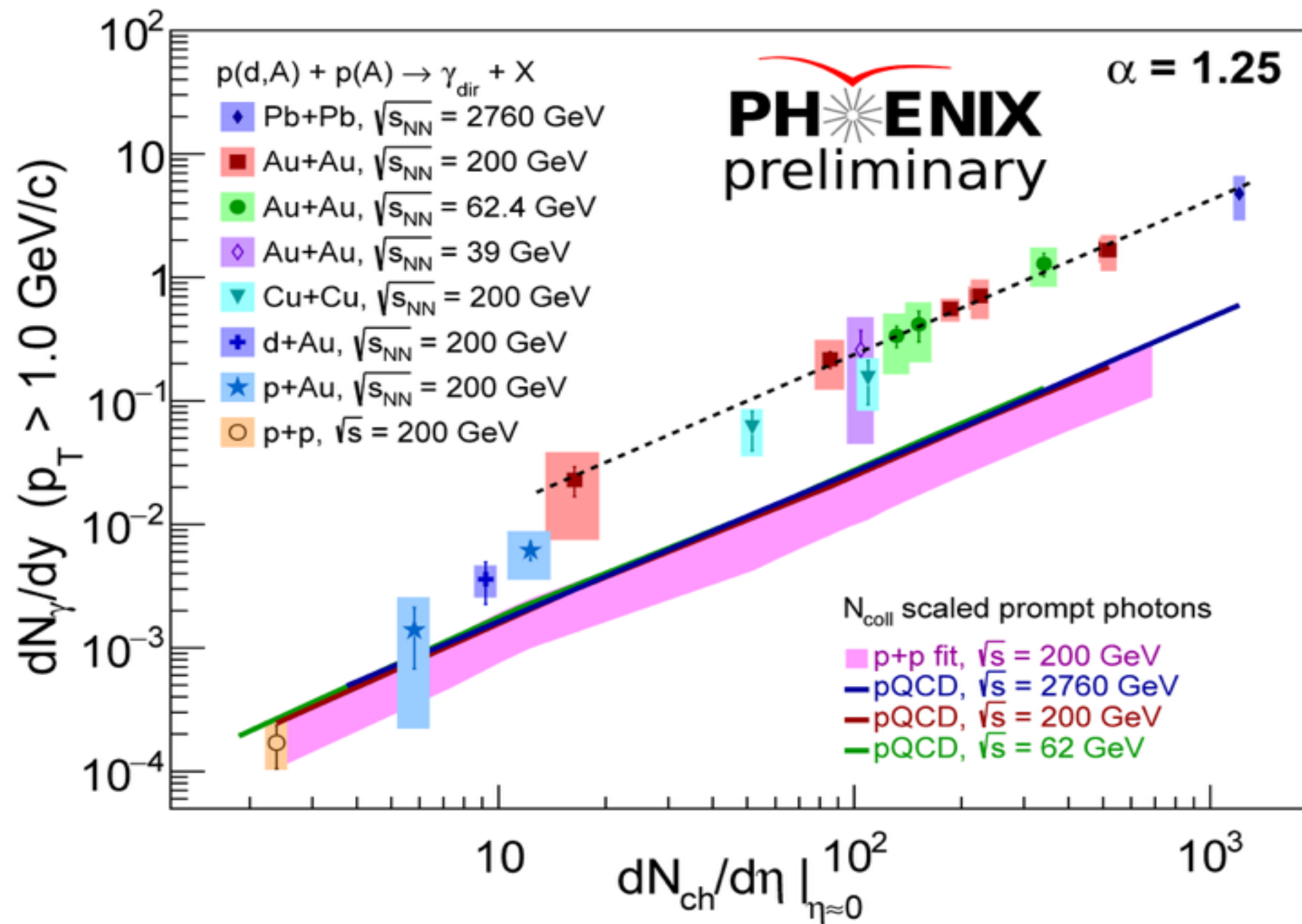


# Direct photon scaling

arXiv:1805.04084



# Small system and scaling

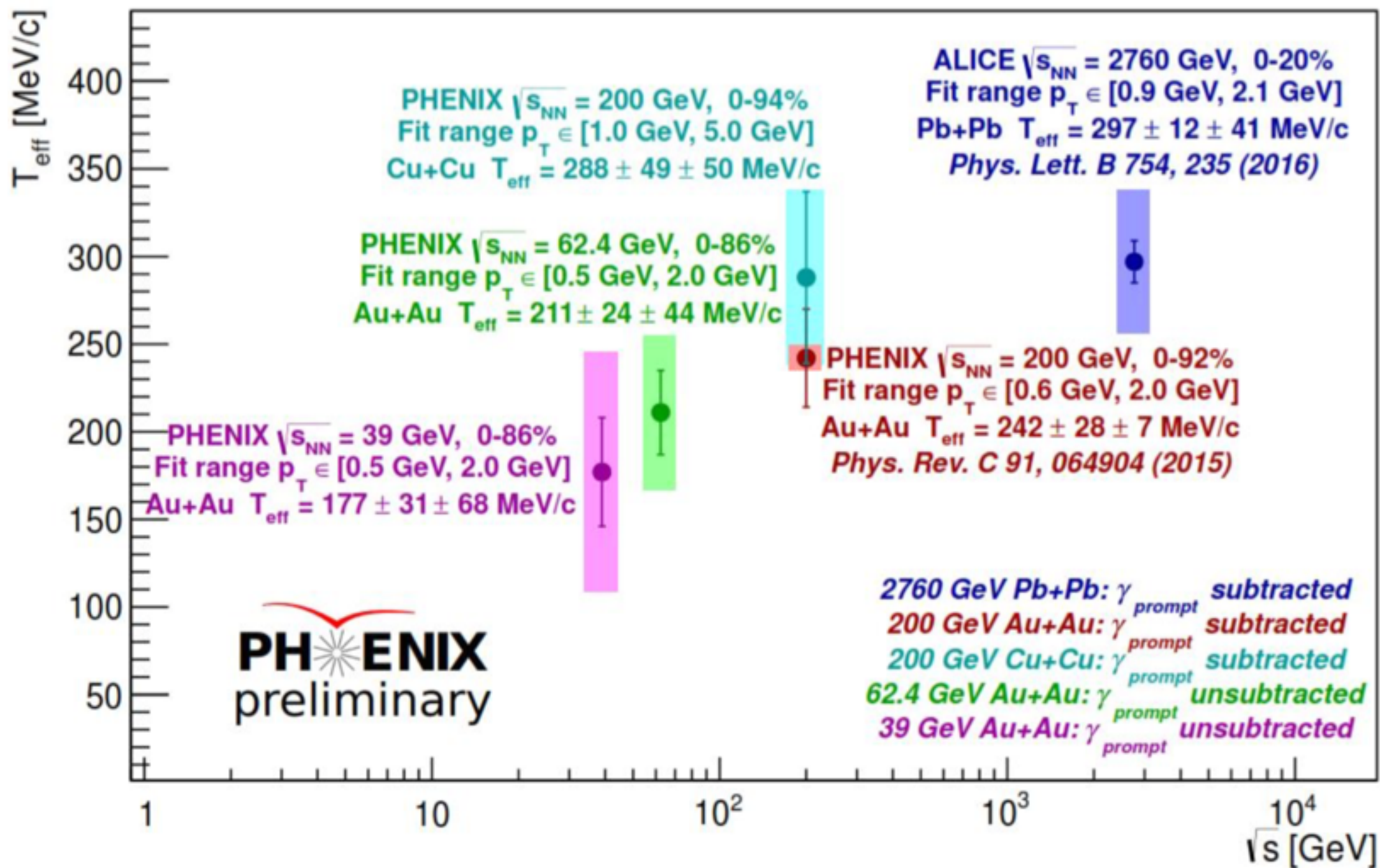


# Summary and Outlook

- **Well established measurements of low  $p_T$  direct photons in Au+Au at 200 GeV :**
  - Large yield above expected in the low  $p_T$  region
  - Large anisotropy  $v_2$  observed for the direct photons
- **Theoretical picture still incomplete to describe large yield and  $v_2$  simultaneously**
- **New results from Cu+Cu at 200 GeV, Au+Au at 62.4 GeV & 39 GeV and p+p, p+Au at 200 GeV**
- **Discovered a scaling behavior in large systems:**
  - Across energies  $N_{coll}$  is proportional to  $(dN_{ch}/d\eta)^{1.25}$
  - At the same center of mass energy, low at high  $p_T$  scale with  $N_{coll}$
  - At all energies, low  $p_T$  yield scale with  $(dN_{ch}/d\eta)^{1.25}$
- **Measure a excess of direct photon in central p+Au at 200 GeV**
  - Data suggest transition from p+p to A+A like scaling
- **Future measurements from PHENIX :**
  - Search for direct photons in small systems: d+Au (2016) BES,  $^3\text{He}+\text{Au}$  (2014)
  - High statistics (factor > 10) Au+Au data from 2014 & 2016
  - Data from different collision geometry Cu+Au (2012)

Backup slides

# T<sub>eff</sub> vs Collision Energy



- Possible increase of  $T_{\text{eff}}$  with increasing beam energy